









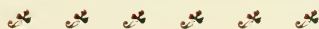




TRINITY CHURCH, SIXTH EDIFICE, 1898.



ANNALS OF AN OLD PARISH
HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF
TRINITY CHURCH SOUTHPORT CON
NECTICUT 1725 TO 1898 BY REV.
EDMUND GUILBERT D. D.



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BY EDMUND GILBERT.

To
My Beloved Parishioners
of
Trinity Church,
Whose Loyal Devotion and Unwavering Kindness
Have united in making
My sojourn among them
The Happiest Period of my Life,
This Volume,
The Record of the Noble Works done in their Days
And in the Old Time before Them,
is
Affectionately Dedicated.

EDITION DE LUXE.

One Hundred copies, on extra paper, numbered from 1 to 100, were printed in the month of November, 1898.

No. 20

P R E F A C E .

The annals of a religious Society, whose inception long antedates this waning century, are necessarily the record of the varying vicissitudes through which it has passed ; the successes it has achieved ; as well as the unerring witness to the quality of the men and women, who, from the beginning, have been identified with its career. It follows then, that our venerable Parish, having been the representative of principles which, though unpopular with the many, were as dear to their upholders as their existence; having begun and maintained, for a century and three-quarters, a continuously vigorous life, in the face, a part of the time, of determined opposition; and having had in its membership specimens of the best brawn and intelligence of New England, must have in its past much that is interesting, and worth rescuing from oblivion. Possessed with this feeling, and also conscious that there are those of advancing years, whose memory of events and persons is still vivid; who, in the course of nature, will not be with us a great while longer, the writer has felt impelled to prepare this volume. Nor is this all: Fairfield and Stratford—for the two places are indissolubly linked together in the early history of Episcopacy in Connecticut—formed the “cradle” in which the Church in these parts was nurtured; and while it ought never to be forgotten by Churchmen, what a vast debt is due to such men as Johnson, and Caner, and Shelton, and to their successors, for the important part they took in its upbringing, there is another aspect of the matter. The writer is no bigot; he ever strives to own and cultivate a “judicial mind;” he disclaims any intention of being, under the guise of an impartial observer, a partisan; he is, however, constrained to state, as

the result of his observations, his conviction, that the Denominations around him are also under great obligations to the Communion with which he is connected. The Protestant Episcopal Church, although they may not know, or be willing to acknowledge it, he believes, has helped materially to advance their condition. One has only to note the character of the prevailing religious services of to-day, to discern that it is the features the Church has always made part of its system, which are set forth in its Book of Common Prayer, that freely adopted, largely enables them to retain their hold upon their people. Nor is this a new departure. In the early part of the eighteenth century, the leanest kind of provision was made for those who attended Divine worship in the different meeting-houses; and from that time onward there has been a gradual enrichment, until we reach the stage that is visible at the present time.

It must be difficult for modern non-Episcopalians, for example, who are accustomed to fine organs, and elaborate music, rendered by selected choirs; who hear the *Te Deum*, and *Gloria in Excelsis*, and *Gloria Patri*, sung every Sunday, and the Apostles Creed recited; the Psalms said antiphonally; who observe Christmas and are familiar with Easter floral decorations; who are fully aware that the trend of their worship is more and more in a liturgical direction, to realize that these things are all borrowed from the Episcopal Church; that in the old days the keeping of Christmas and Easter, was considered sure evidence of affiliation with the Papacy; that the Lord's Supper and Holy Baptism were little esteemed and infrequently administered; that laymen, without a scintilla of authority, ordained other men to the sacred Ministry; that laymen invariably performed the marriage ceremony; that the dead were buried, without any service being said over them at all. Yet such is the fact, and there is no question but that the Episcopal Church, by means of its Liturgy, its painstaking and reverent attention to the details of Divine Worship, its Sacra-

ments, its Ministry. the same ever as it is to-day, has perceptibly influenced the various religious bodies with which it has come in contact. They owe it then their good-will, and should surely be among those who regard its history in the past with kindly interest, and are resolved to pray for its prosperity in the years to come. These reflections are especially commended, with the writer's fraternal regards, to his neighbors, the religious Organizations of the Town of Fairfield.

Once in a great while allusion is made to the so-called disloyalty of the Episcopal Church in the time of the American Revolution. Its Clergy at that crucial epoch were mostly Englishmen; ordained in England; and supported altogether, or in part, by the Venerable Society of London. As was to be expected, they looked at events, as they came to pass, from the English point of view. Not a few of the Clergy, nevertheless, were devoted to the cause of the Colonies; while the laity as a body were overwhelmingly on its side. What if a portion of the former remained steadfast to the old order of things? At least, they were sincere in their convictions, and honest in the maintenance of them. We have had an experience in the late Civil War that must teach us to view tenderly, and have great respect for, men who had the courage of their convictions, who refused under the greatest pressure to violate their oath of allegiance, and own submission to what they considered an usurping government.

The attention of the reader is particularly invited by the writer to the great value of the appendices. The quaint and interesting "Sketch of Trinity Parish," by the Rev. Philo Shelton, is printed in full for the first time. The almost priceless "Private Record of Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, etc., performed by Rev. Philo Shelton, during the Forty Years of his Ministry, 1785-1825 A. D.," has never been given to the public before, so far as is known. It contains over four thousand names, and deserves not only to be put in a shape which shall transmit it unmutilated to succeeding generations; but

also to be made accessible to those, who at any future time, shall be interested in genealogical researches among the early settlers of the Town of Fairfield. The copy of the "Record," now in the possession of Trinity Parish, was transcribed from the original, which is held as an heirloom in the Sheldon family, by Mr. Lewis B. Curtis, of Southport; to whose faithful and arduous labors the thanks of the writer are due.

Whatever may be the merit of the following pages, the writer makes no claim to originality. Others before him have treated portions of his subject exhaustively. It has been his purpose rather to collect than to construct that which is entirely new; to procure from all available sources such items of history as relate to Trinity Parish; and arrange them in the most convenient order. The archives of the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, of London, England, under whose welcome auspices, what is now the Protestant Episcopal Church, was introduced into Connecticut, have been consulted. The Town Records have been carefully searched. The Colonial Records, as far as published, have also been examined. The Rev. Dr. Beardsley's "History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut;" as well as the admirable "Historical Discourse for the Jubilee of the Venerable Society," above mentioned, delivered in Trinity Church, Southport, August 10th, 1851, by the Rev. Nathaniel E. Cornwall, Rector, have afforded much necessary information, which has been freely utilized. The Parish Records preserved intact from the year of the destruction of the second Church and Parsonage, by the British, 1779, A. D. to the present day, have proved a source of enlightenment to so great an extent, that were they wanting, even this brief transcript of the past life of the Parish could never have been written. Various parishioners, and others who do not stand in that relation, have furnished a great deal of valuable material, both written and oral. As it would be invidious to specify one and not the rest, their names are not published. To all of them the writer's indebtedness is gratefully acknowledged.

This does not pretend to be a *perfect* book. No history that was ever written, can claim to be faultless. The most careful, as well as diligent, student is always liable to make mistakes. The writer believes, though, there are but few in the work he now offers to his readers. Whatever genuine errors or notable omissions there may be, whoever discovers them, will do him a favor by pointing them out, and he promises that in due time they shall be corrected or supplied.

Southport, November 1st, 1898.

E. G.

“Superficial it must be, but I do not disown the charge. Better a superficial book which brings well and strikingly together the known and acknowledged facts, than a dull, boring narrative, pausing at every moment to see further into a millstone than the nature of the millstone will admit.”

Sir Walter Scott, Journal, December 22nd, 1825.

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“ God of our fathers ! Still be ours ;
Thy gates wide open set,
And fortify the ancient towers
Where Thou with them hast met.
Thy guardian fire, Thy guiding cloud,
Still let them gild our wall,
Nor be our foes, nor Thine allowed
To see us faint or fall.
The worship of the glorious past
Swell on from age to age,
And be, while time itself shall last,
Our children’s heritage.”

Rev. William Croswell, D. D.



TRINITY CHURCH, 1898.

CHAPTER I.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT AND EARLY HISTORY OF UNQUOWA, AFTERWARDS THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, 1638, A. D.

Scarcely two and three-quarter centuries have passed, since the region in which the beautiful village of Southport now lies, was a savage wilderness. No foot of white man, unless it may have been that of some adventurous explorer, had ever trodden its solitary wastes. Bears in plentiful numbers roamed, where now abodes of refinement and culture abound. Wolves found an unmolested retreat amid thickets which no woodman's axe had ever invaded.* Everything was in its pristine dress; hillside and glen; forest tree and mossy rock; wavy margined coast, and arbored running stream; all were as nature made and meant them. Such was Unquowa in 1637, when a decisive battle was fought, within its borders, between a detachment of colonists and the remnant of the tribe of the Pequots. The habitat of the latter was the extreme eastern section of the Colony, reaching from the Niantic river to Rhode Island, where it had been guilty of numerous unprovoked attacks upon the dwellings and hamlets of the settlers. Driven to desperation, the colonists attacked their foes, destroyed their fort at Groton, and when they fled, pursued, overtook, and defeated them again, near where the Pequot Library building now stands.†

*Long after the settlement of Unquowa, the bears, the wolves and the wild-cats made frequent and ferocious attacks upon the inhabitants. On August 22nd, 1666, "The Townsmen order that whoever kills a bear in the bounds of the town shall be paid fifty shillings for each old, and for cubs twenty shillings each." Child: *An Old New England Town*, p. 28.

†The symbol of brutality is war; of civilization, a library. The Pequot Library picturesque architecturally, containing on its shelves 15,000 well selected volumes, now marks the spot where the Pequots were exterminated. Over its portal, cut in imperishable granite, are these figures, 1637-1887. How many, as they go in and out, note their deep significance?

After the small but heroic band,* under valiant Captain Mason, had exterminated or scattered its savage foes, it returned, flushed with victory, to the familiar scenes, which for the time it had left behind, and the stillness and solitude of the forest primeval again prevailed.

In April of the following year, 1638, John Davenport and his associates, who had wintered at Boston, waiting there, to use his own words, for "The eye of God's Providence" to "guide us to a place convenient for our families and for our friends," and resisting the inducements offered them to remain in Massachusetts and blend their influence and their wealth with the earlier immigrants—anchored their ships in Quinnipiack harbor, and began the settlement of the Colony of New Haven. In 1638, a prominent member of the Colony, Roger Ludlow, becoming dissatisfied with the existing condition of affairs,† resolved to journey further westward and establish a new home for himself, and those willing to accompany him. The precise spot he had in his mind was Unquowa. When Captain Mason two years previously had marched against the Pequots, Ludlow had served under him, and captivated by the beauty and the promise of the region, had carried away with him a remembrance of it that could not be forgotten. To Unquowa then came Roger Ludlow and his followers, and selecting the name of Fairfield for the new settlement, began to devote themselves to its improvement. The Indians,

* "It is ordered that there shall be an offensive war against the Pequots, & that there shall be 90 men levied out of the three plantations, Hartford, Wethersfield & Windsor; (viz.) out of Hartford 42, Windsor 30, Wethersfield 18; under the command of Capt. John Mason, & in case of death or sickness, under the command of Robt. Seely, Left.; and the eldest S'geant or military officer surviving, if both these miscarry." Col. Rec. of Conn. I., 9.

† To the Connecticut settler, religion was an essential part of daily life and politics, and logic was an essential part of religion. Town and Church were but two sides of the same thing. Differences of opinion there must be, in church as well as town matters, therefore, ruptures became inevitable. The minority, unwilling to resist the majority, or to continue in illogical union with it, preferred a different location. Thus every religious dispute usually gave rise to a new town. Johnston: *History of Connecticut*, p. 6.

native and to the manner born, at first were troublesome, but kindly treatment and just dealing soon changed their animosity into friendship. Before many decades had passed, Fairfield, Mill Plain, Stratfield, Greenfield Hill, Mill River (now Southport), and Green's Farms, were flourishing localities. And here this fact must be borne in mind: Trinity Church, whose history, truly recorded, without bias, these pages seek to perpetuate, has never been the Church of a particular village, but rather of an extensive district—the whole Town of Fairfield. All the places mentioned above, have had a special interest in it. At one period, vestrymen were annually elected to represent them in its councils. Long after the Revolution, the parish, in addition to the near-by settlements, reached out and took in Stratfield, now Bridgeport, and Northfield, now Weston. To-day, although situate in Southport, its membership is made up, as of old, not merely of dwellers in that village, but also of residents of Saugatuck, Green's Farms, Greenfield Hill, Mill Plain, and Fairfield as well.

From the first, the settlers of Unquowa enjoyed the great privilege, new to them, of perfectly autonomous action in religious and civil affairs. As the Church, so far as their experience went, had always been the creature of the State, they adopted a novel and untried system, which subordinated it, in every way, to the civil authority.

Their aim was to inaugurate a government in which the power should issue wholly from the people, and under which, the people should be supreme. This was the meaning of the contest which was being waged in England during this period: the old fendal idea of absolute rule by one man, be he Baron or King, was dying out. The people had resolved to have somewhat to say in the administration of affairs; and it was because he failed to discern this fact, that Charles I. died the reverse of a martyr's death at Whitehall, in 1649. The Puritans then, who settled Fairfield, and those otherwise, who afterwards joined them, represented the intense desire for self-

government which at that period was in the air ; which to-day is just as strongly a characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon race. They were seekers after pure doctrine, pure politics, pure worship, pure life. They desired to solve for all time the most difficult problem that touches the secular life of man—how to produce a perfect civic condition : to get as near Sir Thomas More's Utopian ideal as is possible on this mundane sphere.

The environment of these worthies, we must remember, was not as helpful for the achievement of such a great aim, as is ours. Three hundred years ago the world was literally in its swaddling-clothes. It is really surprising, when we look into it, how modern all that makes up the comfort of present living is. We feel ourselves aggrieved to-day, if we have not on our breakfast-tables, all that mankind said and did yesterday. The Puritans had no newspapers, no steam transit, no telegraph system, nor telephone. It was the middle of the seventeenth century before stage-coaches were introduced in England, and then it took four days to convey a passenger at the cost of four pounds, from London to York. Many lines did not even try to run in winter. The roads were so narrow that the Dover coach was drawn by six horses tandem, while the coachman walked by their side. The first carriage ever used in England, was invented by a Hollander for Queen Elizabeth. Erasmus tells us that salt beef and strong ale constituted the chief part of this great sovereign's breakfast ; that similar refreshments were served her in bed for supper : and that, as forks were not invented, she ate with her fingers. There is hardly a thriving shopkeeper who does not occupy at the close of this nineteenth century, a house which English nobles in 1650, would have envied. Here in New England, life was even more primitive. There were no post-offices in Connecticut until 1790. Communication with the great centres was kept up by means of post-horses. "It was an exciting time when John Perry, the carrier of the mail, the man of news, the individual who kept Fairfield in touch with Boston, Stamford and interven-

ing towns, arrived and handed over mail and news together. He was appointed to office in 1687. The whole trip was made once a month during the winter, and once in three weeks during the summer."* Floors were carpetless; walls bare of plaster, the rafters showing; no pictures adorned the walls; illumination was obtained from candles made of tallow, and moulded in the house. The cold in those days was intense. One writer mentions, "the bread freezing at the Lord's Table." Slavery flourished until a late date. There are few wills that, up to the beginning of this century, do not contain bequests of slaves. In 1790 there were 2,759, and in 1840, quite a recent date, 17 were still living. Such were the primitive conditions out of which the highly civilized Fairfield that we know so well, has emerged.

The Town of Fairfield extends from the Bridgeport line on the east, to the Sasco river on the west—a distance of about six miles; and from Long Island Sound to the boundary of the town of Easton on the north. The ground is delightfully varied, consisting of plains and lofty hills, from which entrancing views of the blue water are obtained. The population in 1890 was 3,868.

*Child: An Old New England Town, p. 37.

CHAPTER II.

SKETCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SITUATION IN CONNECTICUT FROM 1638, A. D., TO 1818, A. D.

To understand clearly and fully the difficulties with which those in the Town of Fairfield who favored the Church of England had to contend, it is necessary that the ecclesiastical situation in Connecticut from its colonization in the first half of the seventeenth century, to the adoption of the new Constitution in the early part of the nineteenth, be set forth.

When Roger Ludlow and his companions settled in Fairfield, the only religious organization that was permitted to exist, was of the Congregational Faith and Order. As far as possible it was intended to be a stern, unyielding protest, against everything churchly with which the colonists had been familiar in their life beyond the sea.* One of its marked features was the close alliance it created between civil and ecclesiastical affairs.† The township and the church were one.‡ At the public meetings, matters

*It is not unfair to assume that Roger Ludlow himself at last tired of the situation he had helped to create. In 1654, incensed ostensibly at the interference of New Haven to prevent his town, Fairfield, from waging an independent warfare against the Dutch, he went to Virginia, (a Colony wholly settled by members of the Church of England,) taking the records of the town with him. It is not known when or where he died. Johnston: History of Connecticut, p. 20.

†Manifestly the aim of the pilgrims was the construction of a theocratic state which should be to them, all that the theocracy of Moses, and Joshua, and Samuel had been to the Jews in Old Testament days. In such a scheme there was no room for religious liberty as we understand it. The state they were to found was to consist of a united body of believers, and in it there was apparently no more room for heretics than there was in Rome or Madrid." Fiske: The Beginnings of New England, p. 146.

‡For nearly a century, the same persons in each town considered and decided ecclesiastical affairs indifferently, acting as a town or a church meeting. The same body laid the taxes, called the minister, and provided for his salary. Johnston: History of Connecticut, p. 60.

pertaining to both, were discussed and passed upon. Thus the different town charges, the church, and the school went hand in hand, and every inhabitant was compelled by the law to contribute towards the maintenance of each. The result, in a brief space of time, was open revolt on the part of those who, where their religious preferences were concerned, resolved to act independently. As far back as 1664, William Pitkin, and others, signing themselves, "Professors of the Protestant Christian Religion, members of the Church of England, and subjects to our Sovereign Lord, Charles the Second, by God's grace, King of England," addressed the General Assembly at the October session "declaring their aggrievances," and "petitioning for a redress of the same." Their grievances were that they were not under the care of those who "administered in a due manner" the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that they "were as sheep scattered, having no shepherd;" and they asked for the establishment of "some wholesome law" by virtue of which they might both claim and receive their privileges; and furthermore, they humbly requested, "that for the future no law might be of any force to make them pay or contribute to the maintenance of any minister, or officer, in the church that will neglect or refuse to baptize their children and take care of them" as church members. In 1690, a considerable number of the freeholders of Stratford, "professors of the Faith of the Church of England, asked permission to worship God in the way of their forefathers."* The ranks of such dissidents, no doubt by this time had largely increased, for communication between this and the mother-country had become so frequent, that additions to the population were constantly being made, and of these the Church of England must have

*As the number of colonists increased, dissatisfaction increased with them. It often took the shape of complaints that the children of such persons were refused baptism; but it may be suspected fairly that the natural wish to share in the control of the church whose expenses they helped to pay, had a great deal to do with it. Johnston: History of Connecticut, p. 236.

had a fair share. Petitions and strivings for liberty to worship God "according to the dictates of one's conscience," were though, of no avail. Church and State were, at this period, as closely connected as they ever were in England. The ecclesiastical and civil powers were blended together, and liberty of conscience, and the theory of human rights existed more in name than in reality. The people were required to support the Congregational Order, which was the Order of Faith established by the civil government. Nor was this all. None had liberty to worship publicly in any other way, nor could men vote or hold any civil office, unless they were members of some Congregational church.* This unwise as well as unnatural policy, was persisted in until 1708. In that year the General Assembly of Connecticut passed what was termed the "Act of Toleration," by which all persons who "soberly dissented" from the worship and ministry by law established, that is, the Congregational Faith and Order, were permitted to enjoy the same liberty of conscience with the dissenters in England, under the act of William and Mary.

That act exempted dissenters from punishment for non-conformity to the Established Church, but did not exempt them from taxation for its maintenance. And so, by appearing before the County Court, and there in legal forms declaring their "sober dissent," any persons in the Colony of Connecticut could obtain permission to have public worship their own way; but they were still obliged to pay for the support of the Congregational churches in the place of their respective residences. It was this latter provision that practically negated the Act of Toleration. How could Churchmen of limited means, no matter how ardent their love for their own Church, contribute at the same time for the upholding of a form of religion, for which, under the circum-

*Beardsley : History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, vol. 1, p. 8.

stances, they felt no sympathy? Add to this, the innate feeling that ever impels us to resist being driven against our wills, especially in the sphere of religion, and we have at once an explanation of the stalwartness of those who because of their resistance to the law, were haled to prison. In the Town of Fairfield there were many who were subjected to this penalty. Rev. Samuel Johnson, Rector of Stratford, in February, 1727, writes to the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, at London: "I have just come from Fairfield, where I have been to visit a considerable number of our people in prison for their taxes to the dissenting ministers, to comfort and encourage them under their sufferings. But, verily, unless we can have relief and be delivered from this unreasonable treatment, I fear I must give up the cause, and our Church must sink and come to nothing. There are thirty-five heads of families in Fairfield, who, all of them, expect what these have suffered: and though I have endeavored to gain the compassion and favor of the government, yet can I avail nothing; and both I and my people grow weary of our lives under our poverty and oppression." Nor was this an isolated case. Letters sent to the Venerable Society by the missionaries, frequently contained complaints of persecutions because of their Religion. We adduce only one instance of what took place at Stratford: "On the 12th day of December, 1709, some of their officers, about midnight, did apprehend and seize the bodies of Timothy Titharton, one of our Church Wardens, and John Marcy, one of the Vestrymen, and forced them to travel, under very bad circumstances, in the winter season, and at that unseasonable hour of night, to the common gaol, where felons are confined, being eight miles distant, not allowing them so much as fire or candle-light for their comfort, and there continued them until they paid such sums as by the gaoler was demanded, which was on the 15th day of the same month."

On May 15, 1727, a petition was presented to the Assembly, signed by Moses Ward and Samuel Lyon, Church Wardens, and Dougal Mackenzie, John Lockwood, Nathan Adams, Benjamin Sturges, and others, in the name and behalf of all the rest of their brethren," stating that ten of them had been lately imprisoned for taxes, at Fairfield, praying that the sums of money so taken from them might be restored; and declaring that if their grievances might be redressed, they should "aim at nothing but to live peaceably and as becometh Christians among their dissenting brethren." And in response to this petition, an act was passed, providing that the taxes collected from Episcopalians for the support of religion, might, under certain circumstances, be paid to the Episcopal missionaries instead of the Congregational ministers. This movement of the early Churchmen of Fairfield, was the first effective step ever taken towards the establishment of religious liberty in Connecticut; a result which it required nearly another century to bring to pass. Nor did their efforts to gain their end stop at this point. The above petition was followed up by another acknowledging the "great wisdom and Christian compassion" of the Assembly, and requesting liberty to manage their own affairs as a Society, according to the canons and rubrics of the Church of England, and expressing their adherence to that Church, "let the difficulties be never so great." But this petition was rejected.

Afterwards, in 1738, when the Legislature was about to sell the land of several townships, which had been set apart for the maintenance of the Gospel, six hundred and thirty-six Episcopalians, heads of families, in nine parishes or missions, supplied by seven ministers, requested, by a petition* duly presented, that a small share of the avails of the land

*A most manly memorial "to the Honorable the Governor, Council and Representatives in his Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut," very modestly and courteously entitled by its authors. "the humble address of the members and professor of that part of Christ's Church called the Church of England, living in and under the government of the said Colony." *Eccles. Affairs*, vol. x. 324.

to be sold, and of the funds from other sources for the same purpose, might be appropriated to them. But this, like every other attempt of Churchmen to secure to themselves equal rights in ecclesiastical affairs, met with an unfavorable reception at the hands of the Assembly.

Finally, in the year 1746, the Episcopalians, who had been allowed under former laws of the Colony, to vote with their Congregational neighbors in the meetings of the towns and societies by which the taxes for the maintenance of religion were laid, lost that privilege by an act of the Legislature, which required that none but Congregationalists should vote in such meetings. Against such partial legislation, those in sympathy with the Church of England, again entered their protest.*

All of these acts of the Colonial Legislature are interesting and important, as indications of the state and progress of Episcopal Parishes in Connecticut, from the year 1725 to the year 1750. The last instance, that of 1747, which is very singular, may probably be best accounted for by the fact, that the Episcopalians had become so numerous in some places as to be quite formidable in the position of a third party, holding the balance of power, whenever divisions arose, as they often did in those days, among the Congregationalists themselves †

Harsh treatment of Churchmen, though, did not cease even in the latter half of the century. In the proceedings of the Venerable Society some years before the American Revolution, in connection with the statement: "There is at this present time, a number of ministers of the Church of England in prison on account of their persecution from the dissenters,"

*Thus did the Churchmen of Connecticut occupy, thirty years before the Revolution, a position strikingly illustrative of the grand fundamental principle of that great movement; namely, resistance to "taxation without representation."

† Rev. N. E. Cornwall: *Historical Discourse*. p. 26.

this remark is added, "these sort of complaints come now by almost every ship."*

While the successful issue of the war of the Revolution bettered somewhat the status of Churchmen, pains were taken to keep the control of the government in the hands of the ruling Order, and to shape things with reference to the perpetuity of its influence. The Congregational body was as yet the State Church. Every individual was still subject to personal liability for its maintenance. This continued until 1818, when the spirit of toleration that was abroad, led to the

*In proof of the intolerance and persecution to which the early Churchmen of Connecticut were subjected, we cite as follows. The history of the Church in Connecticut, cannot be understood without such retrospect. We give our authorities:

In the early settlement of the New Haven Colony, after enacting that "none shall be admitted to the free Burgesses in any of the Plantations within this jurisdiction, for the future, but such planters as are members of some or other of the approved Churches in New England," and that "the Court shall, with all care and diligence, provide for the maintenance of the purity of Religion *and suppress the contrary*"; it was enacted in April, 1644, "that the Judicial Laws of God, as they were delivered by Moses, * * * shall be a rule to all the Courts in this jurisdiction."

The following are specimens of their laws:

"It is ordered and decreed by this Court * * * if any person within this jurisdiction shall, without just and necessary cause, withdraw himself from hearing the public ministry of the Word, after due means of conviction used, he shall forfeit for his absence from every such public meeting, five shillings." "And if any man refuse to pay meet proportion, that then he be rated by authority in some just and equal way: and if, after this, any man withhold or delay due payment, the *Civil Power to be exercised as in other just debts.*"

For behaving contemptuously toward the Word preached, or the Messengers thereof, it was ordered, "And if a second time they break forth into the like contemptuous carriages, they shall either pay five pounds to the public treasury, or stand two hours openly upon a block or stool, four feet high, upon a lecture day, with a paper fixed on his breast, written with capital letters, AN OPEN AND OBSTINATE CONTEMNER OF GOD'S HOLY ORDINANCES." "Trumbull's Colonial Records of Connecticut." pp. 524, 545, 524.

These laws were not a dead letter. The Rev. Samuel Seabury, afterwards Bishop of Connecticut, was seized in another Colony, at Westchester, N. Y., "dragged like a felon seventy miles from home" to New Haven by an armed band; and there "after firing two cannon and hurraing," he was placed in close confinement, and treated with extreme severity. MSS. State Papers of Conn. vol. i, doc. 436.

The laws of the Massachusetts Colony were still more intolerant. The penalty affixed to those laws was "banishment on pain of death;" and the laws themselves were executed with the most studied and horrible cruelty. See Mass. Bay Col. Laws, Ch. I, Sec. ii; Ch. II, Sec. ix and x.

inception of a movement, which abolished forever in the Commonwealth, those laws which gave to the majority unequal civil and religious privileges. The Old Charter, granted by Charles the Second, under which Connecticut had been governed for one hundred and fifty years, but which time had shown to be honeycombed with defects, was supplanted by vote of the people, on the 4th day of July, with a broad and liberal Constitution, which abolished utterly the connection of the existing ecclesiastical system with the State. Religious profession and worship henceforth, were to be free to all, and no sect was to be preferred by law. No person was to be compelled to join, associate with, support, or remain a member of, any religious body; and all religious bodies were to be entirely equal before the law. The last restriction upon the consciences of the people of Connecticut was now removed, and religion in whatever form it presented itself was left, for all time, to their free acceptance or deliberate rejection.

The hardships which Churchmen were subjected to, which we have thus considered, form a startling picture for us to contemplate, who live at the close of the nineteenth century; yet it has an explanation that readily occurs to every impartial student of history. Such persecution for religious feeling was the outcome of a state of things, that had slowly, but surely, grown upon the Christian world. In the early ages the Church had to endure persecution; then was the age of the martyrs. In the later centuries the Church had to struggle against heresies: then was the age of the controversialists. Now, the danger of controversy, necessary as it often is for the defense of the Truth, is that it is apt to arouse a persecuting, vindictive temper. The man invested with power, the over-man, flushed with zeal, naturally endeavors to make the under-man think as he thinks; and if he rebels, is tempted to use force to accomplish his end. This is where Churchmen erred in the past.

Heresy and Schism came to be treated as crimes for which the prison and the stake were adjudged to be the rightful penalties.

But "curses come home to roost." Those who were persecuted learned the same lesson; and, in turn, became persecutors. When their time came, the Calvinists at Geneva, and the Independents in the Colonies, proved they could be even more ruthless than their opponents.

Neal, in his "History of New England," says: "It must be allowed that, when the Puritans were in power, they carried their resentments too far." Bishop Burnet testifies: "It were as easy, as it would be invidious, to show that both Presbyterians and Independents have carried the principle of rigor in the point of conscience much higher, and have acted more implacably upon it, than ever the Church of England has done, even in her angriest fits."

Let us, with one accord, thank God that those old days of ecclesiastical tyranny have passed away, we trust never to return in any part of our land! In this age the spirit and language of conciliation are known and appreciated. Upholding the Faith and Order of any particular religious body, by the secular arm, is not accounted to-day, a wise or seemly method by which to bring about unity of belief or action. We have learned that there can be no way to accomplish that desired end, except God's way, and that includes always sympathy and comprehension. The Truth of God must be carried to hearts and consciences by the teachings of those who are filled with it; and the love and faith which it begets and fosters. As Churchmen, looking out upon the broad page of human experience, let us be just, and utter no harsh or bitter word about the narrowness peculiar to the days of old.* We ourselves, as well as those who differed from us, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when opportunity served,

*When in 1691, King William sent out Sir Lionel Copley to be royal governor of Maryland, taxes were straightway laid for the support of the Church of England.

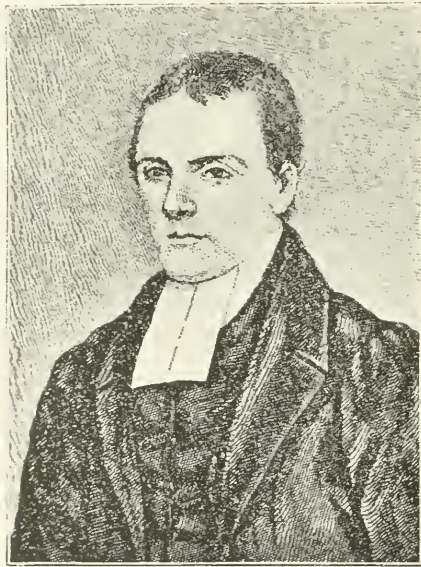
were alike intolerant. When we had the upper hand, we sought by every available means to enforce conformity ; when it came to be the turn of those who had opposed us, they sought by equally violent processes, to maintain the position they had adopted. As has been forcibly said, "We cannot complain of Dissenters, as if mere Schisms accounted for their existence, when, in fact, it was to an extent it is difficult to exaggerate, the sin of our Church which caused separation to seem right to purer consciences in the past ; when, in fact, it is to non-conformists that we owe, in times when darkness had almost settled down upon us, the revival and maintenance of the very ideas of Religion ; when, once more, God has so manifestly blessed their spiritual life. Let us never forget that a belief in a valid Church and Ministry is not in any logical connection with the quite unjustifiable denial that God can act, and has acted in irregular channels. God is not tied to his Sacraments, even though as men, if we know the Truth, we are bound to seek this fellowship in accordance with His covenant, and only so."*

and the further immigration of Romanists was prohibited under heavy penalties. This measure involving legislation for the support of a Church of which only a small part of the population were members, was as unpopular with Puritans as with Papists. Those of the former who had worked zealously to undermine the Roman Church, had not bargained for such a result as this. John Fiske : *Old Virginia*, vol. ii, p. 162.

*Canon Gore : *The Church and Dissent*.

CHAPTER III.

ORGANIZATION OF THE VENERABLE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION
OF THE GOSPEL, 1701, A. D.: VISIT OF ITS FIRST MIS-
SIONARIES, KEITH AND TALBOT, TO THE COLONIES,
1702, A. D.



REV. GEORGE KEITH, M. A.

In England, as far back as the reign of William and Mary, deep interest was felt in the spiritual needs of the American

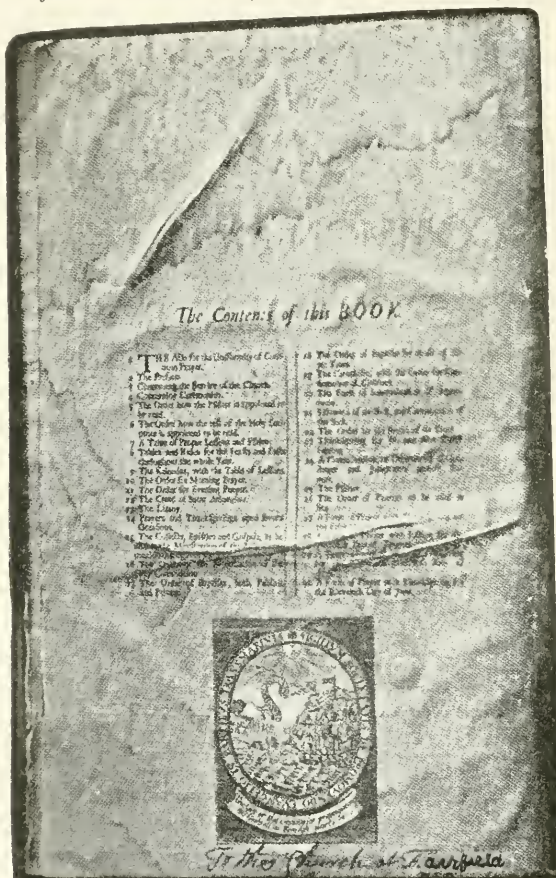
Colonies, which were then beginning to loom into prominence. New England, especially, was thought to be in great danger from various sectaries, who branching off from the new form of religion by law established, felt themselves free to teach and hold grievous forms of error. A writer of the time, declares that that region already "swarmed" with Antinomians, Familists, Conformatists, Seekers, Gortonists, and others of equally startling nomenclature. The aborigines, as well as the negroes who had been introduced in large numbers, also came in for a share of the general attention and sympathy. In 1701, this widespread interest culminated in the formation of the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; an institution, which still flourishes with even more vigor than that which characterized its infancy. Its charter ran:

"William the Third, King of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, greeting:

"Whereas we are informed that in many of our Plantations and Colonies beyond the sea, belonging to our Kingdom of England, the provision for ministers is very mean, whereby there is a great lack of the administration of the Word and Sacraments, causing atheism to abound for the want of learned and orthodox ministers, and Romish priests and Jesuits are encouraged to proselyte . . . We therefore empower these, our right trusty subjects;"—then follow a hundred of the noblest names in England, with the Archbishop of Canterbury at the head, constituting the Society. Its popularity was great from the outset. One member gave a thousand pounds for the work; another nine hundred for teaching the negroes. One gave to it his estate in the Barbadoes to found a college: and another a present of books and maps. Archbishop Tennison left it one thousand pounds towards founding two American Bishopricks. The proprietors of Vermont set apart townships for its use. Evelyn enters

upon the pages of his diary that he had promised twenty pounds a year towards it.*

The object of the Society, set forth in the beginning, and



THE SEAL OF THE VENERABLE SOCIETY.

from which, so far, it has never yet deviated, was declared to be the spread of the Worship of God according to the man-

*McConnell: History American Episcopal Church, p. 99.

ner of the Church of England. On entering upon this work, it shortly divided it into three branches; the spiritual oversight of those English emigrants who had settled in the Colonies: the conversion of the Indians; and also of the African slaves. Of these three, the first asserted itself as the most important, not only because the settlers being brethren and countrymen, had the first claim upon its consideration, but because as soon as the formation of the Society became known, this element began to be clamorous for assistance. From South and North Carolina, from Virginia, from Maryland, from Pennsylvania, from New Jersey, from New York, from New England, the Macedonian cry was heard, "Come over and help us." It thus became so evident that a wide-spread dissatisfaction with the existing religious situation prevailed, that the Society determined to send an experienced missionary to travel over and preach to the people in the several Colonies, who should desire to listen to him: and if possible aid them in establishing permanent organizations. A large number of those in the Colonies, at this period, had been baptized and confirmed in the Church, before they left England. Tempted by the prospect of great material advantages they had left their homes, without calculating the loss they were to sustain in being separated from the Ministry, Worship and Sacraments with which they were familiar. Had they been of the opinion that religious differences were of little importance, the situation in which they found themselves would not have troubled them greatly. But they regarded the matter from another standpoint. Nothing less than the ministrations of a clergyman of the Church of England would satisfy their desires. Assenting to what seemed an imperative demand the Venerable Society proceeded to act; the Rev. George Keith was the missionary selected to visit the Colonies on a "mission of observation," to discover and study the state of religion therein, and to report where missionaries could be sent and congregations established.

His commission was, "to seek the scattered families of the Church, and awaken the people to a sense of their religious duties." The selection was an admirable one. Those who knew him well, declared Mr. Keith to be "a pioneer and propagandist by nature." Earlier in life, while a member of the Society of Friends, he had been sent to the Colony of Pennsylvania, to aid its founder, but discerning dangerous tendencies in the tenets of the Quakers, and foreseeing their results, he severed his connection with his associates, and returned to England, not long after to take Holy Orders in the Church.

In April, 1702, he started on his mission to the Colonies. He came in an English warship, which brought the Governors of New England and New Jersey to their provinces. The Rev. John Talbot came with them as chaplain. With them also was the Rev. Patrick Gordon, who was sent out as missionary to Jamaica, Long Island.

The passengers seem to have been congenial to each other. Mr. Keith, writing to the Venerable Society, says: "Governor Dudley was so civil to Mr. Gordon and me, that he caused us to eat at his table all the voyage, and his conversation was both pleasant and instructive, insomuch that the great cabin of the ship was like a college for good discourse, both in matters theological and philosophical." There was daily service, in which both the passengers and crew joined heartily and devoutly. Mr. Keith mentions the strictness of the discipline which prevailed upon the ship, and describes the punishment of the crew for "profane swearing," which was "causing them to carry a heavy wooden collar about their necks for an hour, that was both painful and shameful."*

Mr. Talbot, the chaplain, became so enthusiastic about Mr. Keith and his mission, that he begged to become a fellow laborer and a companion in his travels. His proposal was accepted and in due time, at the solicitation of the Rev. Mr.

*Ms. Letters, S. P. G., vol. 1, p. 9.

Gordon, the Venerable Society appointed him Mr. Keith's assistant. Their ship reached Boston in June, 1702, and after a few days the two men began their journey. They went from hamlet to hamlet, and house to house, preaching wherever they could gain a hearing, baptizing hundreds, gathering the wandering sheep into organized folds, and making provision to build churches wherever that work could be done.

Everywhere there were numbers who cordially welcomed them. In a letter addressed by Mr. Keith to "the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and all others, the Honorable Members of the Society," dated the 29th of November, 1702, and giving an account of his labors since his arrival in Boston, on the 11th of June preceding, he says: "In divers places of New England where we traveled, we found many well affected to the Church, not only the people but several Presbyterian ministers in New England, who received us as brethren, and requested us to preach to their congregations, as accordingly we did. These were Mr. John Cotton (a grandson to old John Cotton) the Presbyterian minister at Hampton, where I preached twice, and Mr. Talbot once, having very great auditories; Mr. Cushin, Presbyterian minister at Salisbury, eight miles distant from Hampton westward, where we both preached on a Sunday, and had a great auditory; Mr. Gurdon Saltonstall at New London, fifty miles west from Narragansetts, where we both preached on a Sunday; the people generally well affected, and those three ministers aforesaid, all worthy gentlemen, who declared their owning the Church of England, and that if they were in England, they would join in external communion with her; and were there a Bishop in America, we doubt not but several would receive ordination from him."*

*Church Record, vol. i, no. xvii.

This very circumstantial account clearly gives to the people of New London the honor of first welcoming in Connecticut the missionaries sent forth by the Venerable Society. But there is no doubt Messrs. Keith and Talbot preached in all the principal places of the Colonies. Humphrey says: **“They traveled over and preached in all the Governments and Dominions belonging to the Crown of England, betwixt North Carolina and Piscataway River in New England, inclusively, being ten distinct Governments; and extending in length 800 miles.”* At all events, the reception given to Mr. Keith and his companion, reveals these facts: that even at that early date, there was a strong drift towards Episcopacy; that the Congregational system, although in operation for more than half a century, without any interruption or hindrance, had begun to prove unsatisfactory to many of its prominent supporters, and that for a permanent settlement of the religious question, the people, if allowed to choose, would prefer the ecclesiastical system of the Church of England. Of a visitation of Messrs. Keith and Talbot to Fairfield we have no satisfactory evidence. One tradition relates that they stopped there for a brief period, as they journeyed from New London to New York; another that they crossed the Sound from New London to Long Island in a sloop which they hired. If New London was the only town in Connecticut visited by them, somehow they obtained in a brief space of time ample information concerning the whole Colony. Writing home a few months afterwards, they reported of Connecticut that it contained “thirty thousand souls in about thirty-three towns, all Dissenters, supplied with ministers and schools of their own persuasion.” One general result accrued from their protracted itineracy: numbers again had a taste of the worship of the Book of Common Prayer; their courage to stand up in its behalf was fortified; while their longing for a settled ministry among them was

*History S. P. G., p. 20.

aroused. The proof of this is found in the announcement the Venerable Society was shortly compelled to make: "that it was unable to respond favorably to one half of the appeals from the Colonies, presented to it for its consideration."

After an absence of two years, Mr. Keith returned to England, and became incumbent of Edburton, in the pleasant County of Sussex. It was in March, 1716, that he finished his earthly labors, and the simple record in the parish register under date of March 29th, reads: "Then the Rev. Mr. Keith, Rector of Edburton, was buried."

The Venerable Society sent out no missionary more successful and self-sacrificing, than this godly man. He began the work and laid the foundations on which others built. Mr. Talbot was an effective and faithful coadjutor. The two labored together, harmoniously and enthusiastically, throughout their extended tours. After Mr. Keith's departure, Mr. Talbot became Rector of St. Mary's Church, Burlington, New Jersey, of which he was the founder. When he retired he was the oldest missionary in the Colonies, and in influence he stood first among the Churchmen of his day.*

*Mr. Talbot has been the subject of a curious story. It is alleged that after twenty years of faithful service at Burlington, he went to England, and was consecrated to the Episcopate by the non-juring Bishops. McConnell: *History of the American Episcopal Church*, p. 103, says: "Anderson, Hawks, Wilberforce, and Caswell affirm that he did. The Rev. Dr. Hills, in his '*History of the Church in Burlington*,' discusses the same subject exhaustively and maintains the same assertion. In Vol. I. of Bishop Perry's '*History of the American Episcopal Church*' is a Monograph by Rev. John Fulton, D. D., in which he re-examines the whole case, and arrives at the conclusion, that Mr. Talbot never received such consecration; and that the tradition arose from confounding his name with that of another person."

CHAPTER IV.

THE REV. GEORGE MUIRSON ; THE REV. MESSRS TALBOT, SHARPE,
AND BRIDGE ; AND THE REV. GEORGE PIGOT, OFFICIATE
AT FAIRFIELD, 1706-1723, A. D.

IN 1704, the Venerable Society established a mission at Rye, in New York, and sent over the Rev. George Muirson to take charge of it. He wrote thus to the Society in 1706: "I have baptized about two hundred young and old, but mostly grown persons. I have now above forty communicants, though I had only six when I first administered the Holy Sacrament." The fact of Mr. Muirson's settlement at Rye, and his successful labors there, soon became known in many of the shore-towns of Connecticut, and repeated and urgent petitions to visit them were sent by the Church-people. Possessed with the missionary spirit of St. Paul, Mr. Muirson determined to comply with their request. In the summer of 1706, in company with Colonel Caleb Heathcote, a zealous and affluent layman, at that time residing in Westchester county, he set out upon a journey, which it was purposed should extend as far as the Housatonic river. They rode to Fairfield, and thence to Stratford. The missionary, though "threatened with prison and hard usage," preached to large congregations, and "baptized about twenty-four, mostly grown people." Writing to the Society, on his return, he says: "I have been lately in the Government of Connecticut, where I observe some people well affected to the Church; so that I am assured an itinerant missionary might do great service in that Province. Some of their ministers have privately told me that, had we a Bishop among us they would

conform and receive Holy Orders, from which, as well as on the Continent, the necessity of a Bishop will appear."

Col. Heathcote was so favorably impressed by what he saw and heard during this visit, that he hastened to give his impressions concerning it to the Venerable Society. He says: "We found the places we visited very ignorant of the Constitution of our Church, and therefore enemies to it. The chief towns are furnished with ministers, mainly Independents, denying baptism to the children of all such as are not in full communion with them: there are many thousands in that Government unbaptized. The ministers were very uneasy at our coming amongst them, and abundance of pains were taken to terrify the people from hearing Mr. Muirson. But it availed nothing, for notwithstanding all their endeavors, we had a very great congregation, and indeed infinitely beyond expectation. The people were wonderfully surprised at the order of our Church, expecting to have heard and seen some strange thing, by the accounts and representations of it that their teachers had given them." *

In a later letter, dated Scarsdale Manor, Nov. 9, 1706, Colonel Heathcote enters upon a discussion of the general affairs of the Church in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. He says: But bordering on Connecticut there is no part of the Continent, from whence the Church can have so fair an opportunity to make impressions upon the Independents in that Government, who are settled by their laws, from Rye Parish to Boston Colony, which is about 35 leagues, in which there are abundance of people and places. As for Boston Colony, I never was in it, so can say little of it. But for Connecticut, I am and have been pretty conversant; and always was as much in their good graces as any man. And now I am upon that subject, I will give the best account I can of that Colony. It contains in length about 140 miles, and has in it about 40 towns, in which there is a Presbyterian

*Humphrey: History of the Venerable Society, p. 118.

or Independent minister settled by their law ; to whom the people are obliged to pay, notwithstanding many times they are not ordained ; of which I have known several examples. The number of people there, I believe, is about 2,400 souls. They have an abundance of odd kind of laws, to prevent any from dissenting from their church, and endeavor to keep the people in as much blindness and unacquaintedness with any other religion as possible ; but in a more particular manner, the Church, looking upon her as the most dangerous enemy they have to grapple withall, and abundance of pains is taken to make the ignorant think as bad as possible of her. And I really believe that more than half of the people of that Government, think our Church is little better than the Papists, and the truth is, they improve everything against us. Yet I dare aver, that there is not a much greater necessity of having the Christian religion preached in its true light anywhere than amongst them. Many, if not the greater number of them, being in a little better than in a state of heathenism ; having never been baptized or admitted to the Holy Communion.*” Concluding his letter, Colonel Heathcote recommends that Rev. Mr. Muirson be sent on a second missionary tour throughout the Colony. It was under such circumstances that the Episcopal Church was introduced in form, both at Fairfield, and at Stratford. The following year, Mr. Muirson came again to Fairfield by invitation of the Church-people there, and preached to a large congregation in a private house, and baptized a number of adults and children. Concerning this visit he wrote to the Society : “The Independents used means to obstruct me. The people were likewise threatened with imprisonment, and a forfeiture of five pounds for coming to hear me. It would require more time than you would willingly bestow on these lines, to express how rigidly and severely they treat our people, by taking their estates by distress when they do not willingly pay to

* Bolton : History of Westchester County, vol. ii, p. 106.

support their ministers; and though every Churchman in that Colony pays his rate for the building and repairing their meeting-houses, yet they are so set against us, that they deny us the use of them though on the week days. All the Churchmen of this Colony request is that they may not be oppressed; that they may obtain a liberty of conscience, and call a minister of their own: that they be freed from paying to their ministers, and thereby be enabled to support their own. This is all these good men desire."*

The missionary efforts of Mr. Muirson were not long in producing a satisfactory result. Early in the year 1707, the Episcopalians of Stratford, probably in connection with a few from Fairfield, "embodied themselves in a religious society," and requested that Mr. Muirson might be sent to reside among them as a settled missionary. But before they received any answer to their application, he died, in October, 1708; and the few Churchmen, who had begun with much hope and amid cheering prospects, to lay the foundation of the first Episcopal parish in Connecticut, were called, in the providence of God, to await with patience, through a series of untoward events, during a number of years, the coming of a resident clergyman.

After the death of Mr. Muirson, the Rev. Messrs. Talbot, Sharpe and Bridge, missionaries located in New York and New Jersey, occasionally visited Stratford and Fairfield. And at one time, Mr. Sharpe spent nearly a month, and took much pains, and baptized many; among whom was an aged man, said to have been the first man-child born in the Colony of Connecticut. At length, in 1713, the Rev. Mr. Phillips was put in charge of the parish at Stratford; but after a few months, during which his ministrations were very irregular, he suddenly left the Colony. And finally, to add to the disappointment of the scattered flock, not yet fully organized and settled as a regular mission, after several years of zealous

*Humphrey: History of the Venerable Society, p. 119.

and patient effort to that end, the Rev. Aeneas Mackenzie, conditionally appointed for the supply of Stratford, was detained at Staten Island, by the offer of a gentleman to build and endow a Church there. Thus thwarted by various circumstances, scarcely less discouraging than the opposition and hindrance presented by laws of the Colony, which were devised for the support of the Congregational system of religion, the Churchmen of Stratford and Fairfield, to whom Mr. Muirson had preached in 1706 and 1707, were not provided with a resident pastor until 1722.* Then, to their great joy, the Rev. George Pigot was sent hither by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and located for a while at Stratford; with a general charge of all the Church-people in these parts: who seem to have been, as yet, almost confined to Stratford and Fairfield.

Mr. Pigot held his first service at Fairfield, at the house of Mr. Hanford, and preached to about six families, the 26th day of August. He arranged to officiate regularly thereafter, once a month. The other Sundays, when Mr. Pigot was officiating at Stratford, or elsewhere, services at Fairfield were kept up by the aid of a faithful lay-reader. It appears from letters preserved in the archives of the Venerable Society, that in the year 1723, Dr. James Laborie, a French physician of eminence, who had left his native country towards the close of the seventeenth century, and been "ordained by Mr. Knight, *antistes* of the Canton of Zurich," taught and held service conformably to the usage of the Church of England in his own house in Fairfield. According to the records of the Town he resided there in 1718, having bought at that time, of Mr. Isaac Jennings, a place known as "the stone house on the rocks," probably the same concerning which he afterwards said, that he had "destinated" it to the service of the Church of England. Anyway, using the Book of Common Prayer for a manual of worship, this zealous layman invited beneath his

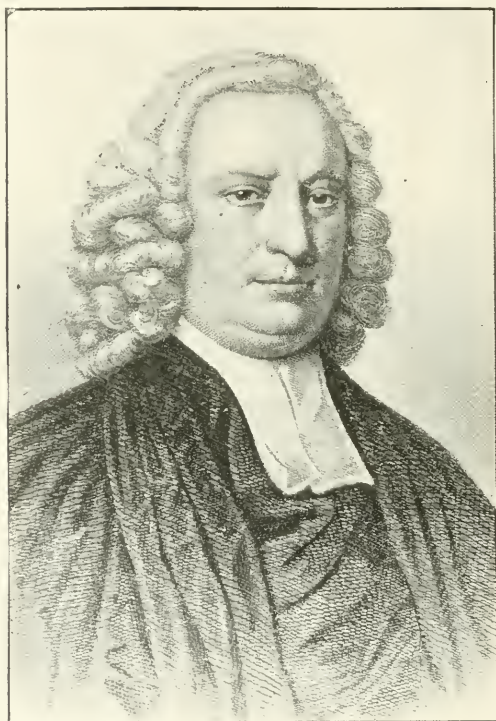
* Rev. N. E. Cornwall: Historical Discourse, p. 9.

roof, on Sunday mornings, those who still clung to the Church of England and its form of worship. Here, then, was a nucleus, independent of a settled minister, about which the Church sentiment could gather and grow! And doubtless it did much to strengthen Mr. Pigot's brief but successful ministry. The latter served Fairfield, in common with Stratford and Newtown but a year and a half, when he was removed by the Venerable Society's order, to Providence, Rhode Island, the place for which he had been intended when he first arrived in America. It seems quite plain then that the Church in Fairfield, actually began with the lay services of Dr. Laborie. If the date of his coming to Fairfield, 1718, is correct, that would be the year of its inception. Mr. Pigot was the first clergyman who officiated regularly, but even in his time, 1722, the continuous life of the parish can be said to have depended upon the fervor of those Churchmen who met from Sunday to Sunday, and participated in Divine worship according to the Book of Common Prayer, the officiant being more frequently one of their own number.*

*In a "Registry-book" kept by Mr. Pigot and Mr. Johnson, at Stratford, there is a record of the appointment, in 1724, of two Wardens and nine Vestrymen "for Stratford," one Warden and two Vestrymen "for Fairfield," one Warden and two Vestrymen "for Newtown," and two Wardens and three Vestrymen "for Ripton;" the Warden for Fairfield being Dougal Mackenzie, and the Vestrymen, James Laborie, Sen. and Benjamin Sturges. At the same time James Laborie, Jun. was one of the Vestrymen for Stratford.

CHAPTER V.

THE MINISTRY OF THE REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON AND THE BUILD-
ING OF THE FIRST CHURCH AT MILL PLAIN, 1723-1727.



REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON.

In 1723, Rev. Samuel Johnson, succeeded Mr. Pigot as rector of the parish at Stratford, and animated with the same

noble spirit of his predecessor, still continued to give to the Church-people at Fairfield, a generous share of his time. He it was, who having been a tutor at Yale college, and afterwards a popular Congregational minister at West Haven, and having had a Prayer Book put into his hands,* had read and re-read it until he had become convinced that "there were no prayers like those of the Church of England;" had crossed the ocean to the mother-country, and been "Episcopally initiated, confirmed and ordained;" and was now returned to Connecticut to extend the borders of the Church of his convictions. How few Churchmen of the present day are conversant with that stirring episode in the ecclesiastical history of Connecticut! Dr. Cutler, President of Yale, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Brown, also a Tutor at Yale, all men of great purity of character, of profound learning, and liberal culture, became convinced that their duty lay in returning to the Church of their fathers, the Church of England. One reason was, the Congregational system was not meeting the spiritual need of the time. This was the period of controversy. The principles of Puritanism had lost their hold upon many of the people. A re-action had set in, and the moral tone of the Connecticut towns was lowered. "The complicated relations of Church and State needed disentanglement and explanation."† Another was, it became evident after calm, unprejudiced study, that unless God was the author of confusion, He would establish but one Church, not many so-called churches, to extend and conserve the Gospel of His Son; that He had done so through His inspired Apostles, and that His Church with its Holy Scriptures, Ministry, Sacraments, and Liturgy,

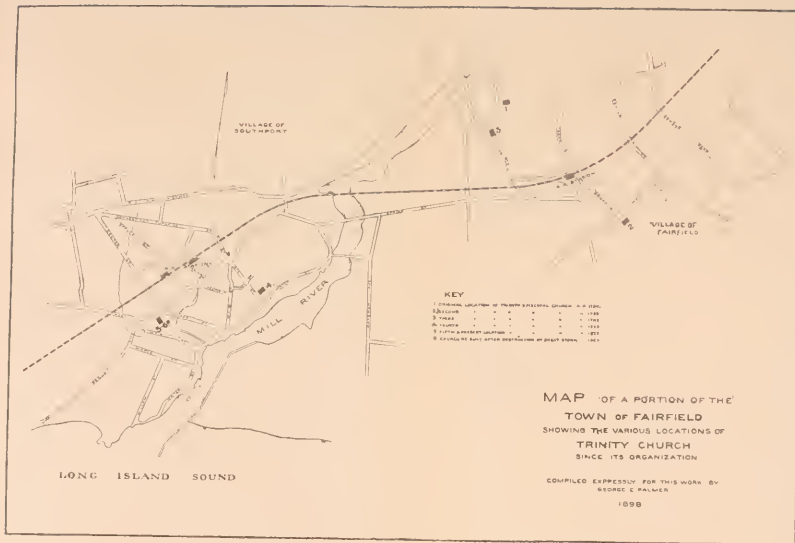
* A good man in Gullford, Smithson by name—blessed be his memory!—had a Prayer Book which he put into the hands of the youthful Johnson before he left his native town. Many of the prayers that he found therein, Johnson committed to memory, and afterwards used as occasion required, in public worship, alike to the comfort of himself and to the comfort and edification of his flock.—Beardsley: History of the Episcopal Church, vol. II, p. 34.

† Child: The Prime Ancient Society, p. 20.

existed just as really and as manifestly in the year 1722, as at the day of Pentecost. With this conviction born within them they could not rest where they were; so they came out boldly and announced their resolve to seek valid ministerial authority in England. Their action, which found numerous imitators, shook the Congregational Church like an earthquake.*

No one can doubt the sincerity of Mr. Johnson's course, or that of his companions. Everything in the way of honor and preferment tempted them to stay where they were; while to obtain the ordination they sought, the terrors of the deep, and the dangers of pestilence, demanded a courage unsurpassed by that exhibited by the most valiant on the battlefield. Mr. Johnson's diary, written for his own, and not the public eye, immediately after the College Commencement of 1722, shows what was the inner mind of this holy man. He says: "Being at length brought to such doubts concerning the validity of my ordination, that I could go no further without intolerate uneasiness of mind, I have now at length, after some private conferences with ministers, made a public declaration of my scruples and uneasiness. It is with great sorrow of heart that I am forced to be an occasion of so much uneasiness to my dear friends, my poor people, and indeed to the whole Colony. O God, I beseech Thee, grant that I may not, by an adherence to Thy necessary truths and laws—as I profess in my conscience they seem to be—be a stumbling block or occasion to fall to any soul. Let not our thus appearing for Thy Church be any way accessory, though accidentally, to the hurt of religion in general, or any person

* Ex-President Woosley in his *Historical Discourse*, 1850, says: A departure for the first time in the Colony, and of so many at once, from the views of the New England Churches, and a return to that Church from which the Pilgrims had fled into the wilderness, filled the minds of men with apprehension and gloom—feelings which extended into the neighboring Colony. I suppose that greater alarm would scarcely be awakened now, if the Theological Faculty of the College were to declare for the Church of Rome, avow their belief in Transubstantiation, and pray to the Virgin Mary.



in particular. Have mercy, Lord, have mercy on the souls of men, and pity and enlighten those who are grieved at this accident. Lead into the way of truth all those who have erred and are deceived, and if we in this affair are misled, we beseech Thee, to show us our error before it is too late, that we may repair the damage. Grant us Thy illumination, for Christ's sake—Amen."

Immediately after his return from England on November 4th, 1723, Mr. Johnson took charge of the Church at Stratford; and Mr. Pigot hastened to his charge at Providence. Mr. Johnson's position was somewhat like that of an itinerant preacher, as he officiated at Fairfield one Sunday in the month, and at Norwalk, Newtown and West Haven, frequently on week days. He describes himself as "alone, surrounded with bitter enemies, so that if he had not been of a very sanguine temper, he would have scarce avoided growing melancholly." It certainly would not have been strange if he had grown "melancholly," if the tradition is true which is told of his reception and residence at Stratford. The house which was procured for him was branded with a hot poker, by the good woman who vacated it, on the fire-boards and every available piece of woodwork, with large crosses—a vigorous protest against Popish invasion. It is also stated that for some time he was obliged to send to Long Island, fourteen miles across the Sound, for provisions which the excellent townspeople would not furnish. Writing to the Bishop of London shortly after his arrival at Stratford, he says: "There is not one clergyman of the Church of England, besides myself, in this whole Colony, and I am obliged in a great measure to neglect my cure at Stratford, where yet there is business for one minister, to ride about to other towns, when in each one of them there is as much need of a resident minister as there is at Stratford, especially at Fairfield and Newtown." This is true, but Fairfield had one incalculable advantage over other places in which he officiated.

Faithful Dr. Laborie was serving as lay-reader there, whenever the Lord's day came round, and Mr. Johnson's duties called him elsewhere. Thus continuity and vitality were imparted to the infant parish. The Church at Fairfield at this time numbered about twenty families: Mr. Johnson writing in 1724 to the Secretary of the Venerable Society says: "The whole town would, I believe, embrace the Church if they had a good minister. I have a vast assembly every time I visit them. We have, however, no abatement of persecution and imprisonment for taxes, which sundry people, and those of both sexes have unreasonably suffered." In spite, though, of the harsh treatment to which it was subjected—so strong was the feeling against the Church, that by common consent Fairfield at this time, and for years afterwards, was styled "the chief seat of opposition to Episcopacy"—the young, but militant parish, decided upon the erection of a Church edifice. After much legal fencing, an eligible site was secured on Mill Plain, a central location, about a mile from the village of Fairfield and the work was begun. This Church building, the second Episcopal Church erected in the Colony, was set apart for divine worship, with a suitable discourse by Mr. Johnson, November 10th, 1725, the Thanksgiving-Day that year for Connecticut.

It is difficult for us at the present time, to conceive how humble and plain this edifice was. Although designed for Episcopal worship, it varied little in size and appearance from the usual type of meeting-house of that day. The windows were hardly more than openings for light and air, their size being reduced by the scarcity and cost of glass; there was no plaster on the walls; no cushions took the hardness off the narrow benches; artificial heat was unknown, even in the bitterest weather; there was the merest suggestion of a pulpit, and a rough carpenter-made reading desk, balanced it on the other side. Seats were provided for the colored people apart by themselves. In the early days in all the Connecticut

towns, religious and other meetings were called by the beat of the drum ; one of the inhabitants making an annual contract for the service. It was considered a decided novelty, and a sign of great progress, when the enterprise of the congregation connected with Trinity Church, caused a bell to be hung in the steeple of the second Episcopal Church erected thirteen years later.

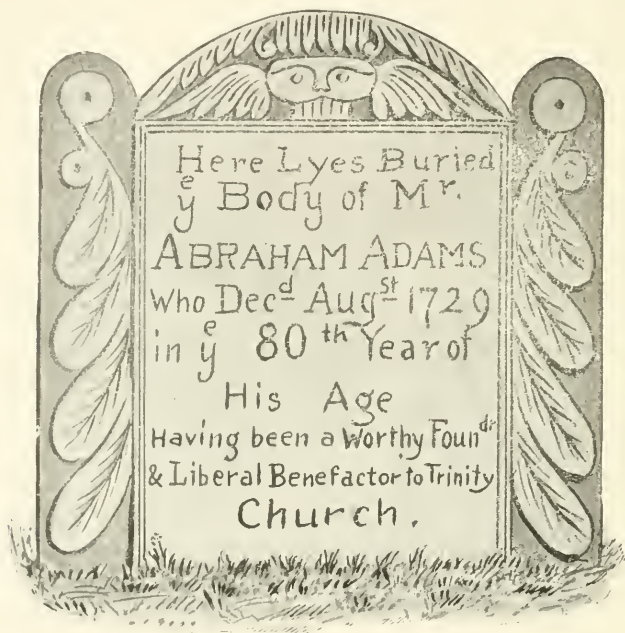
Who were the donors of the funds wherewith this first Church was built? We cannot tell. The records, if there were any, were all destroyed by the fire of 1779. One thing



THE FIRST CHURCH ON MILL PLAIN.

we know, the space about the edifice, began to be utilized in a very short time as a burial ground, and this fact has preserved for us the name of a worthy parishioner, whose benefactions to the parish must have been of a generous character. As late as 1881 there were seven tombstones, worn and disintegrated by the passing years, still in place, on the site of the first Mill Plain Church. In that year they were removed by the

citizens of Fairfield village to the old burying ground of that place, where they are now. The most important in size and state of preservation is that of Abraham Adams, who died August 9th, 1729, in the 80th year of his age, having been a worthy Founder and Liberal Benefactor to Trinity Church.



TOMB OF ABRAHAM ADAMS.

The other stones are :

No. 1.

JOHN APPLGATE,

DIED 1712.

No. 2.

AVIS APPLGATE,

DIED 1717.

No. 3.

REBECCA BROWN,

DIED 1730.

No. 4.

BENJAMIN LINES,

DIED 1732.

No. 5.

DAVID JENNINGS,

DIED 1735.

No. 6.

ESTHER LORD.

The existence and location of these tombstones up to 1881, clearly remove the exact site of the first Church erected by Trinity parish, from the uncertainties of mere tradition. The tombstones, within the recollection of many living witnesses, were taken from the spot marked No. 1, on the map of Church sites, which has been prepared for this work, and that, beyond dispute, is where the first Church built by the parish was situated.

CHAPTER VI.

THE REV. HENRY CANER, THE FIRST RECTOR OF TRINITY
CHURCH, AND THE BUILDING OF THE SECOND CHURCH
EDIFICE, 1727-1747 A. D.



REV. HENRY CANER.

Under the impetus given by the possession of a permanent building wherein the people could gather without hindrance for worship and Sacrament, the continued progress of the Church at Fairfield became assured. One need there was, however, that became more and more apparent, that of a

settled minister. Inasmuch as Mr. Johnson, though actually Rector at Stratford, was practically missionary to all the parts adjacent, it was not to be expected that he could give the growing parish at Fairfield as much of his time as it required. It is true it had been favored for a number of years, with the invaluable services of Dr. Laborie, but about this date he had felt compelled, owing to bodily infirmity, to sever his relation with it as lay-reader. Providentially, a fit person was found to succeed him in that capacity.* Henry Caner was a recent graduate of Yale college, a communicant at Stratford, and a candidate for Holy Orders. He was, according to Dr. Trumbull, "the son of the Mr. Caner who built the first college and Rector's house at New Haven." After having materially assisted in keeping up the services, as lay-reader, under Mr. Johnson, for two years, Mr. Caner crossed over to England, and having been ordained, was forthwith appointed missionary at Fairfield, by the Venerable Society. The second and most important stage in the history of Trinity Church was now reached. It had not only its proper Church edifice, but also for the first time in its history, a Rector whom it could rightfully call its own. Instead of coming at intervals from without to minister to the congregation, henceforth there was one who would make the parish itself the centre from which his influence would radiate. As was to be expected, a new era of prosperity ensued. In 1733, Mr. Caner informed the Venerable Society that "the Independents, who formerly thought it a crime to join with the Churchmen in worship, now freely came to Church, and joined with seeming sanctity and satisfaction in our service." Later he reported that in Fairfield, as well as elsewhere, the Church was in a growing

*The name of "Henry Canner" was enrolled in the "registry-book" of Mr. Pigot, upon the list of communicants at Stratford, "Sept. 2d, 1722," and that of "Henry Caner, Jr." by Mr. Johnson, "March 25th, 1725." It may be well to observe that while the original orthography of Mr. Caner's name was that which is here employed, the received pronunciation of it was doubtless indicated more precisely by Doctor Trumbull, who wrote it *Canner*, and by the early Churchmen of Fairfield, who sometimes wrote it *Comer*.

condition, and never in as flourishing a state as at present." Early in 1736, exhausted by his arduous duties, Mr. Caner was induced by his physician to journey to England, for rest and recuperation. Writing to Mr. Johnson from London under date of March 9th, the Bishop of Gloucester said: "I wish Mr. Caner, who has the character from you, and every one, of a very deserving man, might acquire a better state of health by his journey hither." The Bishop's desire was realized. Change of scene, freedom from that "sameness that doubles care," speedily restored him to his normal condition, and in the autumn of the same year he was back at work in Fairfield, ready, if that were possible, to make greater sacrifices than ever in its behalf. During all this time the parish was steadily advancing. The attendance on the Lord's Day had grown larger; more than one parishioner had remembered the Church by will; while better than all, there were numerous indications of an abatement of the persecuting spirit and temper of those who, up to this time, had been bitterly hostile. About a twelve-month after Mr. Caner's return from England, the Church edifice, erected in 1725, on Mill Plain, had become, it was discovered, "much too little for the congregation;" besides, the location was inconvenient for many of the parishioners, being nearly a mile from the town-centre, which was Fairfield village. At this period, Fairfield was a port of entry, and the seat of the Courts for the whole County. Shops and dwellings were multiplying, and the population increasing rapidly in numbers and importance. A Church located close by, rather than over a mile distant, it was felt was a want of a pressing nature, even though a considerable part of the congregation might have to travel somewhat further to reach it. The project meeting with favor, at a town meeting held July 27th, 1738, a vote was adopted* giving "liberty to

* This action of the town was in its civil capacity. We hear it sometimes intimated that the Prime Congregational Society of its own kindness and good will graciously permitted the Episcopalians to organize and build. Beginning with 1827, the meetings of the Prime Ancient (Congregational) Society of Fairfield.

the members of the Church of England" to build their proposed Church, upon certain conditions,* "on the high way near the Old Fairfield gate, about eighty rods eastward from the Prime Society's Meeting House."†

This second Church, though built in the infancy of the parish, was a very substantial and comparatively elegant structure. It was fifty-five feet in length, thirty-five feet in breadth, and twenty feet in height, "with a handsome steeple‡



THE SECOND CHURCH, FAIRFIELD VILLAGE.

and spire of one hundred feet, and a good bell of five hundred weight." It had also capacious galleries.

according to its own record were entirely distinct from "Town-Meeting." That was a different affair. Moreover, the meeting referred to above, was held at Greenfield, not Fairfield.

*One of the Certain Conditions was that Episcopalians who lived within a mile of the new edifice were granted the privilege of paying their taxes for the support of it; while all others were compelled to pay their taxes for the support, as of old of the Congregational Church

†See site marked No. 2 on map facing page 33.

‡A spire or steeple, in the early days of the Colony, was considered almost an essential to an edifice belonging to the Church of England. It distinguished it as such. "The steeple house" was the common name given to one of our Churches by the Puritans.

By this time, it is apparent that the parish of Fairfield had outstripped in some respects the older parish of Stratford, and taken the position of the leading parish in the Colony. It appears from original papers in the office of the Secretary of State, that of six hundred and thirty-six heads of families, men and women, whose signatures were attached to a petition then presented to the Colonial Assembly, from nine parishes under the care of seven missionaries, of these, *eighty-two*, or more than one-eighth of the whole, belonged to Fairfield. Some conception of the rapid advance of the Church at Fairfield after Mr. Caner became its settled minister, and assumed the full charge, may be gathered from a comparison of the small number of communicants whom he found here as lay-reader under Mr. Johnson in 1725, namely *twelve*, with the number of families belonging to the parish in 1730, namely *forty*. No doubt such a satisfactory state of things was owing, in large measure, to the tact and ability displayed by Mr. Caner. During the years of his incumbency he had acquired great celebrity as a preacher. Nor was he lacking in the least in missionary zeal: for although Fairfield claimed and received the largest share of his attention, he still found time to extend his ministrations to the other villages and towns that called for them.

In one of his letters he speaks of his parish as fifteen miles long, and more than six broad; and says that this compelled him to keep two horses, which he found "expensive and troublesome." Norwalk, and Ridgefield, and Northfield (now Weston), were visited regularly by him, and a great deal of effective work was done, by house to house visitations, throughout the then rough and sparsely settled country. Mr. Caner's connection with the Church at Fairfield lasted twenty years, from 1727 to 1747. In the latter year, the few communicants with which his ministry began had grown to over two hundred, sixty-eight of them being in Fairfield.* After this

*According to Hawkins, p. 246, there were sixty-eight at Fairfield, one hundred and fifteen at Norwalk, and twenty at Stamford. But such a statement, in view of the nature and extent of the mission, is not very definite.

long period of faithful service Mr. Caner resigned his charge,* and removed, greatly to the regret of all of his parishioners, to Boston, and took the services at King's Chapel. Much has been said and written to the detriment of the Colonial clergy.† It may have been that here and there one was found who did not live answerably to his holy calling. But as a general rule it was far otherwise. In the New England Colonies especially, there was little in the positions which the Church offered to attract unworthy men. One missionary, writing to the Venerable Society in 1718, says: "They tried to tire me out with ill-usage. The shop-keepers would not sell me provisions. The dissenting miller sent back my grain unground, with the message to eat it whole, as the hogs did. Some of the leading people in the place never fail to avoid me when they meet me on the streets." What inducement was there to covet, except for principle's sake, such a life as that? We may safely say that in endurance, as good soldiers of Christ; in self-sacrifice; in earnest work in the face of poverty, persecution and relentless opposition, the clergymen of the northern Colonies compared favorably with any of ancient or modern times. Such a man was Mr. Caner. He did, as all Churchmen of to-day must acknowledge, a great and lasting work in Fairfield, for which his memory will always be held in grateful remembrance.

* Mr. Caner was Rector of King's Chapel, Boston, until 1776; about thirty years. And though not then a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, he continued to act as its confidential friend and correspondent, especially in regard to the recommendation of candidates for Holy Orders. In 1766, he received the honorary degree of D. D. from the university of Oxford. In March, 1776, he went from Boston to Halifax; and soon afterwards sailed for England, where he "was received by the Society with the respect which he so well deserved as the father of the American clergy. The Society offered him the choice of any of the missions then vacant; and he was appointed to Bristol, in Rhode Island, and thus through the changes and chances of life, he re-assumed in his old age, a similar employment to that which he undertook in his youth." *Hawkins' Hist. Notices*, p. 247. He died in England at an advanced age, in 1792.

† Thus we have this statement: It was the custom to send out to Virginia and Maryland the poorest specimens of clergymen that the mother country afforded. Men unfit for any appointment at home, were thought good enough for the Colonies.—*Fiske: Old Virginia*, vol. 1, p. 262.

CHAPTER VII.

REV. JOSEPH LAMSON'S RECTORSHIP, 1747-1773, A. D.

In 1745, the eloquent, but erratic George Whitefield, appeared in New England, and started a wave of emotionalism that carried not a few staid and conservative Christians off their feet.* Mr. Caner early wrote that while the religious enthusiasm had made no progress at Fairfield, it had spread extensively at Stamford, Norwalk, Ridgefield, and other places. Perhaps a little of it at this time would have been beneficial to the Church-people of Fairfield; then Mr. Caner would not have felt compelled to give the reason he did for leaving his parish: "The present state of my parish," he said, "does not yield me all the satisfaction I could wish. A cold, Laodicean disposition, an inconsiderate neglect of the great duties of religion, a visible deadness and formality, are what at present give me most concern, and prevent the success of my administrations." Many another faithful Priest of the Church of God has been discouraged and disheartened by the same indifferent spirit, manifested by his flock, and has felt constrained to seek else-

* In 1745, Whitefield again crossed the Atlantic; and after organizing his scheme of charity in Savannah, he traversed the Southern States,—swept like a tornado across Philadelphia,—and preached in New York and Boston. The progress of no conqueror was ever greeted with greater felicitations; men, on horseback, poured forth to meet him, and conducted him in triumph into their cities. The Governor received him at his table, took him in his state carriage to the boat, and bade him farewell with embraces; ministers welcomed him to their pulpits; the chapels and churches were too confined for his auditors, who followed him in thousands to the fields; day-break and night-fall beheld crowds hanging on his words. Physical power, marvellous beyond example, kept pace with this fiery energy; a tour in America of 800 miles, during which he travelled the worst roads, left him at leisure, within two months and a half, to preach 175 public sermons, besides holding numberless private exhortations and conversations.—Colquhoun: Sketches of Notable Men, p. 227.

where, for those to whom religion is a solemn reality and not a pretence. It is apparent that Mr. Caner felt that the parish at Fairfield needed stirring up, and that some one whose methods were different from his own, might possibly succeed in accomplishing the task. He soon found there was a clergyman of this type available, the Rev. Joseph Lamson, who had already made for himself quite a notable record. Born at Stratford, brought up a Congregationalist, he had graduated at Yale College. Soon after taking his diploma he became a Churchman, and deciding to take Holy Orders, embarked for England. He was accompanied by Mr. Richardson Minor, a graduate likewise of Yale, and for fourteen years, (1730 to 1744), pastor of the Congregational Society at North Stratford, now Trumbull, who was risking a voyage across the sea for the same laudable purpose. The vessel in which they sailed was captured by the French, and both were made prisoners, and taken to Port Louis, in France. After their release from confinement, on the way to London, they reached Salisbury, where Mr. Minor was taken ill of a fever, and died, to the great sorrow of all his friends and especially of his dependent family. Mr. Johnson, on hearing of the event, exclaimed, "would to God we had a Bishop to ordain here, which would prevent such unhappy disasters." Mr. Lamson having been ordained, returned to this country, and his friends welcomed him "as one risen from the dead, among whom the report had for some time placed him." Soon after his arrival, the Venerable Society willingly appointed him assistant to the Rev. Mr. Wetmore, the missionary at Rye, New York, and the particular duty assigned to him was to minister "to the inhabitants of Bedford, North Castle, and Ridgefield, with a salary of £20 per annum, besides a gratuity of the same sum, out of compassion to Mr. Lamson's sufferings and necessities." From this responsible charge Mr. Lamson was transferred, upon Mr. Caner's resignation, to Fairfield, where he served with great acceptableness for twenty-six years—a ministry

only terminated by his death. A romantic story is told concerning Mr. Lamson. Before entering the ministry, while still in college, he became engaged to Miss Abigail Rumsey, of Fairfield, a beautiful young girl of good family, only sixteen years of age. While on a visit to friends in Stratford, she was suddenly taken ill, and it soon became evident that there was no hope of her recovery. Mr. Lamson was summoned to her bedside to bid her farewell, and before her death she directed that her gold beads—ornaments greatly prized at that day—should be taken from her neck, and given to her lover. It is said that he never parted with them; but carried them upon his person until he died. Mr. Lamson afterwards married Miss Wetmore, daughter of the missionary at Rye.

After locating at Fairfield, Mr. Lamson continued to preach for a while at Ridgfield. He is also mentioned in the proceedings of the Venerable Society for 1748, as "serving Norwalk," which had become, with the parts adjacent, a parish "of one hundred and five families, exceeding in number any other Church, except that at Stratford." The Church was also growing eastwardly. At Stratfield, now Bridgeport, Church-people had become so numerous, that under the guidance of Mr. Lamson, in 1748, they proceeded to erect a house of worship, which was called St. John's Church. This was the eighteenth Church edifice built in the Colony. In writing to the Venerable Society, in the autumn of this year, Mr. Lamson says: "I have formerly mentioned a Church built at Stratfield, a village within the bounds of Fairfield, in which they are very urgent to have me officiate every third Sunday, because we have large congregations when I preach there." This was the beginning of the now flourishing mother-parish of Bridgeport, St. John's, which owed its beginning and early growth to the fostering care of Mr. Lamson, and his successors in Trinity Church, Fairfield. It should be a source of pride for the present members of

Trinity Church, to remember that their venerable organization in the past was the foundress of many of the Churches that now exist in Fairfield County. It is a matter of record that the Rector of Fairfield, besides serving his own cure, officiated at stated times, through successive years, at Stamford, Norwalk, Greenwich, Chestnut Ridge, (now Redding) Ridgefield, Easton, Wilton, New Canaan, and Stratfield, a district which now embraces twenty flourishing parishes, and in which, within one hundred and sixty-three years past, not less than thirty-five Churches have been built by Churchmen, in addition to the first small edifice erected by Trinity parish at Fairfield, in 1725. Of course, as the congregations in the outlying villages grew stronger, they came to have their own settled clergymen, and thus it came to pass that about twelve years before the war of the Revolution, Trinity parish was greatly reduced in numbers; the Churches at Stratfield and Easton only, continuing to be dependent upon it for regular services. From this time onwards, it may be, because its ministers had fewer demands for his ministrations elsewhere, the home work appears to have grown steadily. In the records of the Venerable Society, very little mention is made of Fairfield during Mr. Lamson's rectorship. One reason was, the period of struggle and opposition attendant upon the establishment of the parish was successfully past; another, that it had become largely self-sustaining. Even in Mr. Caner's time, it was a matter of pride that the parishioners had "tried to help themselves, manifesting, always, a willingness to contribute according to their ability." It was while Mr. Lamson was rector, that it was proposed and recommended "that every professor of the Church of England should, by his will, devote a certain sum to the support of this particular Church; to be used by the Church-wardens, for the purposes designated by the Church." Already, while Mr. Caner was in charge of the parish, certain small bequests had been made, but this was a formal movement, intended, if possible, to

bring about the speedy endowment of the parish, and thus facilitate the perpetuity and enlargement of its usefulness in the future. Very soon two parishioners had left £100 each, and two supposed to be at the point of death had ordered, the one £100, and the other £50, to be appropriated out of their estates. In addition to this, Dougal McKenzie, the father-in-law of Mr. Caner, ordered in his will that the whole of his property, comprising besides his homestead in the village of Fairfield, a large tract of land on the eastern bank of Mill River, and two or three other valuable tracts in the vicinity, should be taxed forever for the support of the Church at Fairfield. In 1747, a member of the parish, Mrs. Jerusha Sturges, left it a legacy of £50. And in 1762, Mr. St. George Talbot, a very liberal benefactor of several Churches in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, gave not only a solid silver communion service, which was a munificent present for this era, but arranged that on his death, the parish should receive £200, to be laid out in buying a glebe for the use of the Rector.* It thus came to pass that in 1767, upon the decease of Mr. Talbot, a glebe of nine acres of pasture and wood-land at Round-Hill, was purchased of Jonathan Sturges, executor of Samuel Sturges, in the name of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, "in trust forever, for the use, benefit and improvement of a minister of the Church of England, having charge of Trinity Church for the time being." Meanwhile, in 1764, the parishioners of Trinity had repaired their Church at an expense of nearly £100 sterling, about five hundred dollars; and Mr. Lamson

*A charitable layman, Mr. St. George Talbot, residing in the Province of New York, favored with his patronage the effort to plant the seeds of Episcopacy in a community of divided religious sentiments. He dedicated the energies of an active life and the resources of an ample fortune to strengthen its influence in New York and Connecticut, and his liberal benefactions are associated with the early history of the Church in Fairfield County. In 1763 he was present at the Convention in Ripton, and wrote of the Rev. Mr. Johnson's sermon: "It was excellent, pathetic, spirited, adapted to the occasion, and acceptable to the clergy and all who had the pleasure to hear him." Beardsley: History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, vol. i, p. 212.

wrote to the Society that the Church at Stratfield would cost as much more. In the same letter he remarked, that "the people of his mission seemed more solicitous concerning the Church than ever." Altogether it may be inferred from the statistics contained in one or two reports which are preserved in the archives of the Venerable Society, that Trinity parish continued, upon the whole, in a state of constant advance, until the time of Mr. Lamson's death, which took place in 1773. Thus, the long ministry of this faithful servant of God came to an end. He found the parish in rather a depressed condition, but from no fault of his able predecessor. Wisely, but energetically, he led his people, until blessed by the Holy Spirit, he was enabled to see the ebbing tide turn, and flow in again. For controversy he had no desire. He rather cultivated peace with the conflicting elements with which he was surrounded, confining himself to the simple truths of Christianity, and of the Church, so necessary to us all. There are many ways of following our Lord, and doing His work. The Church has need of every gift; it is well that some of its clergy should be eloquent, argumentative, able to force its claims upon the gainsayers, showing that every talent which God has given to man, may be used to His glory; but still more needful for the Church's welfare are ordinary clergymen like Mr. Lamson, who by quiet presentment of its worth, show to those who differ, without contention or bitter side-glance, that within its fold the soul can find all the spiritual help and sustenance it needs. Such men are its stanchest pillars; and no gift is a cause of greater blessing, thankfulness, and fruit to God, than they.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE REV. JOHN SAYRE'S RECTORSHIP—THE BURNING OF FAIRFIELD
BY GEN. TYRON, 1774 TO 1779, A. D.



REV. JOHN SAYRE.

Shortly after the Venerable Society learned of Mr. Lamson's death, the Rev. Mr. Marshall, of Woodbury, was appointed to Fairfield, but he deemed it inexpedient to leave his field of labor in Litchfield County. In 1774, the Rev. John Sayre, who had been for several years a successful missionary at

Newburgh, in New York,* was assigned to the cure. The new Rector came to a united and prosperous parish. The Church edifice was one of the finest in the Colony; and a commodious parsonage added greatly to the comfort of the incumbent and his family. Shortly after Mr. Sayre's arrival, the impressive service of Induction, or as we now term it, Institution, took place. According to its rule, on the Sunday fixed for the ceremony, the Church was closed; the ponderous key was left in the door; the people stood around in the Church-yard. The minister came, accompanied by the Wardens and Vestry, and stood before the closed door. The inducting person, usually a prominent parishioner, designated by the congregation for the purpose, took the minister's right hand and placed it on the key, and pronounced the words: "By virtue of the authority given unto me, I induct you, Reverend Sir, into the real, actual, and corporal possession of the parish Church of Fairfield, called Trinity Church, with all the rights, members, and appurtenances pertaining thereto." The officiant then opened the door, and "put the minister in possession," and henceforth the Church was his for all sacred services and uses. The minister then proceeded to toll the bell, and immediately afterwards entered the Church, followed by the people. The Order for Morning Prayer was then said, and at its close the minister solemnly declared his assent to all the doctrines

* In 1763, the Rev. John Sayre was appointed missionary at Newburgh-on-the-Hudson, by the Venerable Society, at a stipend of £30 a year. Settling back in the country, he preached alternately at Newburgh, Otterfield, Walkill, and New Windsor. "He was," says Cadwalader Colden, Jr., "a popular preacher, and gathered large congregations, and raised up a spirit of building Churches." In 1773, a conflict of opinion arose concerning the location of a new Church building. The Vestry preferred Newburgh, holding that the glebe, situated within its limits, would be claimed by New Windsor, which was in the next town, if the Church should be built in the latter place. Mr. Sayre was strongly in favor of New Windsor, because it had been the field of the earlier missionaries, and was known to the Society in England as the centre of the missionary work in that locality. Newburgh was successful; and Mr. Sayre was much disturbed and discouraged at the conclusion of things. Shortly after he obtained a transfer to Trinity Church, Fairfield. Newburgh Historical Society Proceedings for 1895, p. 40.

and usages of the Church of England, as contained in the Book of Common Prayer. The people then saluted and welcomed their Rector, and bade him God speed. Henceforth he was theirs and they were his; both being bound together by a tie as sacred as that of marriage.

Under different circumstances, no doubt Mr. Sayre's rectorship would have been very successful. In his "Sketch of Trinity Parish," prepared in 1804, the Rev. Philo Shelton says of him: "that he was a man of talent, a good preacher, an agreeable companion, a pious Christian, and that during his stay the Church flourished." It was Mr. Sayre's lot, however, to begin his labors at Fairfield at a critical time in the nation's history—just after the destruction by the populace, of 840 chests of tea in Boston harbor—by which action, the whole country was thrown into a patriotic ferment. In a brief space, the impending storm of the Revolution burst upon the Colonies, and the Episcopal Church had to bear the popular odium against England's rule. Congregations were broken up, and many Churches were closed. Numbers of the clergy were exiled or imprisoned, or were watched and harrassed as suspects. Mr. Sayre, a native Briton, soon became obnoxious to the "Committee of Inspection," and on refusing to sign the articles prescribed by the Continental Congress, which obliged those who signed them, not only "to oppose the King with life and fortune," but also "to withdraw all offices of justice, humanity and charity, from every recusant," was banished to the village of New Britain, in Hartford County. After an absence of seven months he was permitted to return, on condition that he would not go beyond the parish limits, above four miles. This lasted eighteen months, when the area in which he might move was made co-extensive with the County. From this time on, Mr. Sayre maintained the regular services in the three parishes, Fairfield, Stratfield, and Easton, until 1779; always omitting the Liturgy, preferring to

worship, for the time being, for peace sake, according to a way that would meet the approval of all men, whether in heart they were rebels or tories.

And now a momentous event came to pass, that was freighted with great calamity for the Church at Fairfield. In the summer of 1779, the movement of Colonial troops southward, through New Jersey, towards Philadelphia, stripped Connecticut of a large portion of its able-bodied men. The royalists in New York, realizing that the Colony was left in an unprotected state, promptly resolved to strike a blow that should inspire their enemies there with something of a distaste for war. The Fourth of July fell on Sunday, and the good people of New Haven had made their arrangements to celebrate the Declaration of American Independence on the day after. On Monday morning, before the exercises had begun, the tidings came that Gen. Tryon's fleet, numbering over forty-eight vessels, had dropped anchor near West Haven, at five o'clock, and that his troops, 3,000 strong, were marching towards the city. They came in two detachments of 1,500 men each; one straight from West Haven; the other, by a slightly diverging route, to attack and capture a small fort, located at Black Rock. The first of these met with some opposition, but by noon, all resistance had been overcome, and the invaders united and flushed with victory, were ready to plunder and destroy. Happily, they spared the public buildings; but even as it was, a money loss of £25,000 was inflicted. Departing next day, the marauders sailed along the coast, and on the morning of July 8th, appeared off Fairfield. Gen. Tryon had visited the village more than once; had been the frequent recipient of its generous hospitality, and knew the locality well. About four o'clock in the afternoon the troops began to land. In the course of the night, several houses were consumed, and nearly all were plundered. Early the next morning the conflagration became general; over two hundred buildings, forty eight stores and many barns, were turned to

smoking heaps of ruins. As a climax, on leaving, the enemy set fire to everything that up to that time had escaped the flames. Both houses of worship, the Episcopal and the Congregational, were burned to the ground.

President Dwight, who lived at Greenfield Hill, thus describes the scene: "While the town was in flames, a thunder-storm overspread the heavens, just as night came on. The conflagration of near two hundred houses illumined the earth, the skirts of the cloud, and the waves of the Sound, with a union of gloom and grandure at once awful and magnificent. At intervals the lightning blazed with a lurid and awful splendor. The thunder rolled above; beneath, the roaring of the fire filled up the interval with a deep and hollow sound. Add to this, the sharp cracking of muskets occasionally discharged, the groans here and there of the wounded and dying, and the shouts of triumph: then place before your eyes, crowds of the miserable sufferers, mingled with the bodies of the militia, taking from the neighboring hills a farewell prospect of their property and their dwellings, their happiness and their hopes, and you will form a just but imperfect picture of the burning of Fairfield."

A similar destruction was wrought at Green's Farms: scarcely a building of any description was left unharmed. The enemy crossed the Sound on the 9th, to Huntington Bay, and remained there until the 11th, when they re-crossed to Norwalk, and repeated their work of destruction there. By this time, the population of the interior was mustering in great force to meet Tryon at his next landing, when he prudently returned to New York. He had, however, inflicted upon Connecticut a loss of about £250,000, as appears by the proven claims, for which the General Assembly allotted 500,000 acres of northwestern lands, to the sufferers, in 1792. He had not, though, broken the spirit of the people; and his own loss in men, nearly three hundred, was enough to convince him that he had lost more than he had gained by his dastardly act. During the destruction of Fair-

field, Mr. Sayre, in conjunction with Mr. Elliot, the Congregational minister, was constantly among the people, doing his utmost as a faithful pastor, to succor the distressed, and if he possibly could, to avert the ruin that was impending.

In a letter written from the scene of desolation, on the fifteenth of July, just a week after the event, Mr. Elliot says: "Mr. Sayre, the Church of England missionary, begged Gen. Tryon to spare the town, but his request was denied. He then begged that some few houses might be spared as a shelter for those who could provide habitations nowhere else; this was also refused." At length, according to the same authority, he procured a protection, under the hand of Gen. Tryon, for the houses of Mr. Elliot and Mr. Burr, and a promise that the houses of worship should be spared. All were, however, consumed, not excepting Mr. Sayre's own dwelling; he thus found himself, his wife, and eight children, thrown upon the street, destitute of everything except the garments in which they were clad. Under such circumstances, the parish for the time being completely prostrated, the Church building destroyed, the parishioners ruined, he departed to New York, where he remained several months, recruiting his health and strength, both of which he alleged, had been seriously impaired. Would it could be recorded that Mr. Sayre had remained in Fairfield, and had proved faithful to his charge! Mr. Elliot's spirit certainly, was more commendable. "Not a house for my shelter; two-thirds of my personal estate plundered and consumed; a wife and three small children dependent on me for their maintenance; I feel myself in a state of uncertainty as to many of the necessities of life. And yet I am willing to undergo any difficulties in the work of the ministry for your sakes." Thus he wrote immediately after the fire. Mr. Sayre, when he had sufficiently recovered, although he failed to return to Connecticut, frequently assisted his brethren, the Rectors of the parishes at Jamaica. Newtown, Flushing, and Huntington, on Long Island. Later he emigrated to Nova

Scotia. In a letter from thence, dated Oct., 1783, he informed the Venerable Society, that he had an intention of settling upon the river St. John, where a large number of refugees had fixed themselves ; that he had procured two rooms for his household, and had "officiated in the meeting-house of the Congregationalists, with their approbation, to a numerous audience, consisting partly of the refugees and partly of the old settlers." He added, that when he left Connecticut, "he had not a change of raiment for himself or his family, and had been obliged to borrow money to enable him to remove to Nova Scotia." And not long afterwards, it was apprehended by the Society that his health was in a very dangerous state ; and "a gratuity was granted him of £25." He died in New Brunswick in 1790.

CHAPTER IX.

MR. PHILO SHELTON, LAY-READER, AND THE ELECTION OF
BISHOP SEABURY, FIRST BISHOP OF CONNECTICUT,
1779-1785. A. D.

The parish at Fairfield, after the havoc wrought by the senseless raid of Gen. Tryon, was reduced to great straits. The Church edifice, and its contents: also the parsonage house and furniture: the parish records, and library of more than a hundred volumes were destroyed. Added to this was the unlooked for defection of the Rector. In such a crisis, his presence and influence would have been of inestimable value. What was especially needed was some one who could serve as a rallying point about whom the remnant could gather. A month passed by, and the faithful few that were left, esteeming it not manly "to hang their harps upon the willows," but relying upon the promise of God, that his Church should never become extinct, called a meeting, which was held at the house of Mr. John Sherwood, at Greenfield, a Churchman whose zeal no amount of disaster could dampen. On this occasion it was mentioned that Mr. Philo Shelton of Ripton, now Huntington, in this State, who had recently graduated from Yale College, was purposing to enter Holy Orders, and was even now ready to serve as lay-reader should any congregation desire his services.* The result was, a committee was

* Rev. Philo Shelton was a grandson of Daniel Shelton, (one of a family of fourteen children) and was born in Ripton, now Huntington, May 7th, 1754. He graduated from Yale College in 1775, just after the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, and soon became a candidate for Holy Orders. While waiting for ordination, he married, in 1781, Lucy, daughter of Philip Nichols, Esq., of Stratford, a strong Churchman, and the first lay-delegate chosen to represent the Diocese of Connecticut in the General Convention of the Church.



THE REV. PHILO SHELTON.

.ET. 30.

appointed to hire Mr. Shelton "to read" and "to officiate" one-third part of the time at the dwelling of Mr. Sherwood, one-third of the time at Stratfield, and one-third of the time at Weston.* We thus see Trinity Church begin its new life under entirely different conditions. Hitherto it had been nurtured by the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, but henceforth it was to go forward depending solely upon the generosity of its own members. Naturally, the



HOUSE OF MR. JOHN SHERWOOD AT GREENFIELD WHERE THE FIRST SERVICES WERE HELD AFTER THE FIRE OF 1779.

operations of the Society in this country were ended by the Declaration of the Independence of the United States. Its work was, as it is to-day, to aid in the extension of the Gospel in

*"At a meeting of the Episcopal Society, on the 24th of August, 1779, at the Dwelling House of Mr. John Sherwood, in Greenfield, voted, Mr. Ezra Katlin, Moderator of said meeting, also voted, Hezekiah Bulkley, Junr., Clerk; voted, Messrs. Daniel Wheeler, Peter Bulkley, and Ezra Katlin, a Committee to apply to Mr. Shelton at Ripton, in order to hire him to officiate for them. If Mr. Shelton will please to come; voted also the first Sunday that we have a Church, it is to be at Mr. John Sherwood's Dwelling House, the next at Stratford, the next at North Fairfield." This is the first entry in the Parish Record, begun after the fire in 1779.

the dependencies of Great Britain. Every Episcopalian in this Country, and especially this Diocese, owes it, however, a debt of the weightiest character, for the wise and lavish efforts it put forth to plant the Church of the Living God in these Colonies. Its ministers were self-sacrificing and Christ-like men. They had a reason for the hope that was in them. They preached sound doctrine; they taught the young their Catechism; they instructed the people in that Faith which "was once delivered to the saints." They believed that the Church is of God, and not of man: that it is the Ark of God, into which Christians enter at their Baptism, and in which, if they are faithful to the end, they shall safely ride the billows of this tempestuous sea, and at last reach the Haven where they would be. May we of this generation, show our gratitude for what was done for us in the past, by giving as willingly on our part of our means, and our efforts, to extend our Apostolic Church everywhere, abroad as well as at home !

One of the imperative requirements of the Church in America, for many years, was a Bishop. Before the Revolution, it had been the custom for those desiring Holy Orders to resort to England for ordination, thus necessitating a long journey, which was not only costly but full of perils. As the Episcopate is the centre from which all effective administration of the Church issues: as without it there can be no confirming of those who have come to years of discretion, no ordaining of clergy, no consecration of Churches, the question arises, why did not the Church in England send a Bishop into these Western parts long before? The Rev. Mr. Pigot, writing to the Venerable Society in 1722, plead for such a boon; the Rev. Dr. Cutler, and especially the Rev. Mr. Johnson, followed up his effort at a later date, with even more fervor. In a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury written in 1766; the latter says: "I have the great mortification and grief to inform your Grace, that those two hopeful young men who were ordained last, had the misfortune to be lost on their arrival on the coast, the

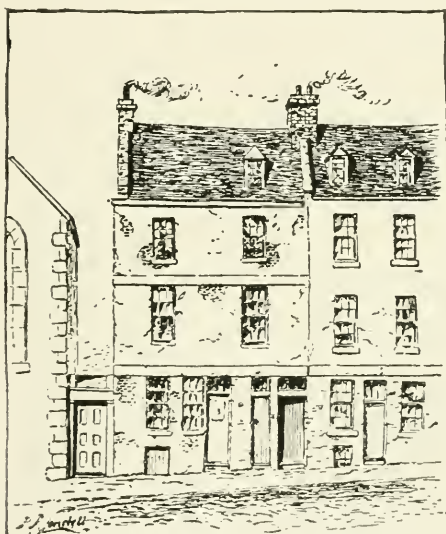
ship being dashed to pieces, and only four lives saved out of twenty-eight. These two make up ten valuable lives that have now been lost, for want of ordaining power here, out of fifty-one, (nigh one in five) that have gone for Orders from hence. I consider the Church here for want of Bishops, in no other light than as being really in a state of persecution. Will the mother-country have no bowels of compassion for her poor depressed destitute children of the established Church (probably a million of them) dispersed into these remote regions?" The Rev. Matthew Graves writing to the Venerable Society, 1771, says: "The blessing of a Bishop would make true religion overspread the land. Hasten, hasten, O Lord! a truly spiritual overseer to this despised, abused, persecuted part of the vineyard, for Christ Jesus' sake, Amen! Amen!"

It must be borne in mind that the importance of sending at least one Bishop to America, had engaged the attention of the Venerable Society, from the very beginning of its existence. As early as 1712, "a draught of a bill was ordered proper to be offered to Parliament, for establishing Bishops and Bishoprics in America." In 1717 the Bishop of London, reported to the Society, a benefaction of £1,000 sterling, toward the maintenance of a Bishop in America, from a person who desired to be unknown. In 1718, the Hon. Elihu Yale of London, the principal benefactor of Yale College, from whom the institution derived its name, had subscribed £50 towards the same object. What stood in the way of sending a Bishop to America? The English Parliament: it is a fact of history that a majority of its members were always ready to listen to those opposed to the welfare of the Church across the sea. They were told it would "Episcopize the Colonies; beget rebellion on the part of those who would hazard everything dear to them, their estates, their very lives, rather than to suffer their necks to be put under that yoke of bondage which was so sadly galling to their fathers;" and the result was they legislated against it. Many Bishops and Clergy, were heartily in accord with the

project, but the Church was tied hand and foot by its connection with the State. The successful issue of the Revolution, while it was a "bridge of sighs" so far as further financial aid from England was concerned, speedily solved this problem. Those of the clergy of Connecticut who still held their parishes, met at Woodbury, in the last week of March following the publication of peace, and elected the Rev. Samuel Seabury to be their Bishop. That he might receive consecration, the Bishop-elect journeyed to England; and after nearly a year of opposition and discouragement, such as would have appalled an ordinary man, realizing that success could only be achieved in a different quarter, he turned to the Non-Juring Bishops of the Church of Scotland; and on the 14th of November, 1784, he was consecrated a Bishop of the Church of God.* No words can measure the importance of that act. It ultimately forced the English Parliament to do for the Church in America, that which was absolutely necessary for its existence, and which should gladly have been done long before. Bishop Seabury was absent from this country two whole years; and in the letter which he wrote from London to the clergy of Connecticut, after his return from Scotland, he said: "My own poverty is one of the greatest discouragements I have to bear with. Two years' absence from my family, and expensive residence here, have more than expended all I had. But in so good a cause, and of such magnitude, something must be risked by somebody. To my lot it has fallen: I have done it cheerfully, and despair not of a happy issue." He reached New London, June 29th, 1785. No noise attended this first and undisguised entrance of a Bishop upon the soil of New

* Bishop Seabury was consecrated in old St. Andrew's, Aberdeen, *presentibus tam e clero, quam e populo testibus idoneis*; and the edifice where the consecration took place was built for Bishop Skinner. It stands in an obscure part of the city, and is reached by a narrow lane, where no large carriages pass,—just the spot which one might suppose the Non-Jurors, in a time of distressful persecution, would select to offer their devotions, and escape the observation of their enemies. It was abandoned almost forty years since, on the erection of a new St. Andrew's in a better locality. Rev. E. A. Beardsley: *The Churchman*, August 1, 1835.

England. He came as a simple Christian citizen, and not in any outward pomp and dignity, such as before the war for Independence had commenced, the adversaries of the Church had apprehended. "The Presbyterian ministers," says Wilberforce: "appeared to be rather alarmed; and in consequence of his arrival, assumed and gave one another the style and title of bishops, which formerly they reprobated as a remnant of Popery."* Bishop Seabury was present at the Annual Com-



SITE OF OLD ST. ANDREW'S, ABERDEEN, WHERE BISHOP SEABURY
WAS CONSECRATED.

mencement of Yale College, in 1785, and when some one mentioned the fact to President Stiles, and suggested that he should be invited to a seat among the distinguished personages," he replied that "there were already several bishops upon the stage, but if there was room for another he might occupy it." With joy did the clergy of Connecticut assemble in convention

* Wilberforce: Hist. of the American Church, p. 213.

at Middletown, on the 3rd day of August, 1785, and publicly welcome and recognize their Right Reverend Father in God. A Concordate, “‘established in mutual good faith and confidence’ at Aberdeen, and the pastoral letter of the Scottish Bishops, were laid before the clergy, and excited in them the



THE REV. SAMUEL SEABURY, D. D., FIRST BISHOP OF CONNECTICUT.

warmest sentiments of gratitude and esteem.”* At this Convention, Bishop Seabury admitted to the order of Deacons, the Rev. Philo Shelton : it being the first ordination ever held in the United States by a duly consecrated Bishop.† Mr.

* Beardsley : History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, vol. i, p. 367.

† Rev. Mr. Shelton was one of the four admitted to the Diaconate by Bishop Seabury at his first ordination, held in Middletown, on the 3rd of August, 1788. Mr. Ashbel Baldwin, another of the four, who afterwards became his nearest neighbor and friend and associate in efforts to build up the Church, used to say that the hands of the Bishop were first laid upon the head of Mr.

Shelton was now in a position that enabled him to take charge, as Rector, of the Church at Fairfield. Sometime earlier, in anticipation of his speedy ordination, a committee had been appointed by the parish, and the following agreement had already been entered into: "We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee by the several Episcopal Churches in the Township of Fairfield, and being fully empowered by them to agree with Mr. Philo Shelton to settle with us as our minister, are empowered to give him for his maintenance One Hundred Pounds Lawful Silver Money, together with the use and improvement of a piece of land lying in Fairfield, at a place called the Round-Hill, containing about eight acres, which sum is to commence as soon as he shall become an officiating minister, and to continue as long as he shall perform Divine service among us, which sum shall be annually paid. And by the Powers delegated to us we do bind ourselves and the several parishes, to see the above agreement fulfilled. And until he is in Orders, we do agree to give him twenty-eight shillings lawful money, for every Sunday he shall officiate among us. And whereas there are three several places where Episcopal members assemble for public worship, viz: Fairfield, North Fairfield and Stratfield, Mr. Shelton is to hold Church at the places according to the list of members that attend, and belong to the several Churches. In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 24th day of February, 1785.

Ezra Kirtland,

Ozias Burr,

Elijah Burritt,

Committee for Stratfield.

Daniel Meeker,

John Sherwood,

Ebenezer Nichols,

Committee for Greenfield.

Thomas L. Collyer,

Calvin Wheeler,

Moses Burr,

Committee for North Fairfield.

Seth Sturges,

Ruben Beers,

Josiah Bulkley,

Committee for Fairfield.

Shelton, so that his name really heads the long list of clergy who have had ordination in this Country by Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Rev. E. A. Beardsley: *The Churchman*, August 1, 1885.

Joshua Jennings,	Shubael Gorham,
Peter Bulkley,	Jonathan Coley,
Committee for Green's Farms.	Committee for Saugatuck.
As Committee of the Old Society of Fairfield.	

From this time onwards, Mr. Shelton's ministrations were given without interruption, save during a brief period, two years after his ordination, when he was disabled by a serious illness. Even then the services in the three Churches were not



FIRST PAGE OF THE BOOK OF RECORD OF TRINITY PARISH, CONTAINING ACCOUNT OF THE MEETING HELD AT MR. JOHN SHERWOOD'S HOUSE, AUGUST 20, 1779.

discontinued, for the people held a meeting and took measures to supply his place. The quaintness of the original record may provoke a smile; for the meeting being warned, "to hire some suitable person to 'carry on' instead of Mr. Shelton, until he should get better," it was voted that the moderator of the

meeting, Mr. Jonathan Bulkley, should "*carry on*;" and still later a definite arrangement was authorized with the contiguous Churches to "hire a man to '*carry on*' for three months."* There are several votes of this kind, which plainly show that "*carrying on*" was the old-time expression for conducting Divine service.

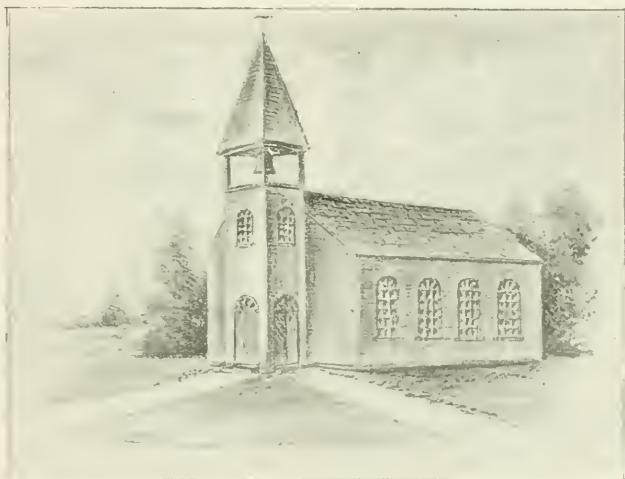
* Rev. N. E. Cornwall's Historical Discourse 1851, p. 42.

CHAPTER X.

THE REV. PHILO SHELTON'S RECTORSHIP. THE BUILDING OF THE THIRD CHURCH AT MILL PLAIN, 1785-1825, A. D.

After the destruction by Gen. Tryon's troops, of the second Church erected by Trinity parish, the congregation, so much of it as was left, met for worship in private houses, first, as has been stated, at Mr. John Sherwood's, in Greenfield; then at Capt. Hezekiah Sturges', in Fairfield. This arrangement continued until the Prime Ancient Society of Fairfield village had finished its new sanctuary, and thereby vacated the Town-House, which in turn, was used by the Church-people until 1790. During the decade that had elapsed since the fire, two questions had begun to agitate the minds of those who were interested in Episcopacy in the Town of Fairfield; *when* and *where* shall the new Church be built? Financially and numerically, the village of Fairfield was at a low ebb. Its former prosperity had departed. That many of the old inhabitants were scattered abroad by the calamity which had befallen them, and that the social and business aspects of the community were greatly altered, are manifest from the language of a certain vote in 1783, concerning, "all persons formerly inhabitants of the town, who had been so long gone from this to any other town, that they might be presumed to have gained settlement there." This is a language which plainly implies that an extensive dispersion of the former inhabitants had taken place. And such was the fact. A formidable rival, the near-by city of Bridgeport, formerly Stratfield, was rapidly growing in importance. Already the Courts of the County, which formerly had helped to make

Fairfield a great legal centre, had been absorbed by it. Besides, the harbor advantages of Mill River, here in our own village of Southport, as it is now called, were attracting attention; while Greenfield Hill, Green's Farms, Saugatuck, were all becoming more and more populous. Upon the rate list for 1799, preserved in the records of the parish, fifty names are found, which were not upon that of 1789. Of



THE THIRD CHURCH EDIFICE, MILL PLAIN.

these fifty, nineteen lived in Fairfield, including what is now Southport; twenty-one in Greenfield; three in Green's Farms; and seven in Saugatuck. The question then as to where the new Church edifice should be erected easily became a burning one. There were those who favored building upon the former site, on the highway, near the Old Field Gate, eighty rods west of the Prime Ancient Society's Meeting-house; while there were those who insisted upon going to Mill Plain, almost a mile distant, quite close by the spot where the

first Church was built, for the reason that that neighborhood was more convenient to the larger proportion of the parishioners. At first the advocates for the old site prevailed. At a meeting held at the Town-House, Jan. 9th, 1799, a "clear," that is, a unanimous vote, was passed "that a Church be built and erected for Divine worship on the ground where the late Church stood, and which was unhappily consumed by fire." On April 10th, of the same year, at a meeting held at the house of Mr. Nathaniel Perry, another "clear" vote was passed, "that a Church be built on Mill Plain, so called, where Jonathan Sturges, and Thadeus Burr, drove the stake by appointment of the Town, and that all former action with regard to building a Church be null and void." There was no change of purpose after this. The parish forthwith, began preparations to build. Dimensions of the edifice were ordered to be forty-eight, by thirty-five feet. Ichabod Burr was appointed a committee to get the timber for said house, and deliver it on Mill Plain. It was voted to have 8 x 10 window glass; shingles three feet in length, and a circular roof; the steeple was also to "*go on*" with the rest of the building. This, the third Church-structure, described by Mr. Shelton, in his brief Sketch of the Parish as "a pretty decent building, with a steeple and bell, and a gallery accross the end," was dedicated the 5th of September, 1790, when a sermon suitable to the occasion was preached by the Rector. The completion of the Church, and its consecration by Bishop Jarvis did not take place, however, until October 18th, 1798.* The Instrument of Donation is still extant, and is replete with the true Church spirit:

"At a meeting of the Church-Wardens, Vestrymen and Parishioners of Trinity Church in Fairfield, on the 2nd day of May, 1795, it was unanimously resolved and voted that as Almighty God had been pleased to put it into their heads to

* For location see map of Church-sites, p. 33.

build a new Church for the Celebration of His Worship according to the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, and had in the course of His good Providence enabled them so far to finish it as to render it fit for public use according to their best abilities, it was their full purpose and earnest desire that the said new Church be



THE RIGHT REV. ABRAHAM JARVIS, D. D.,
SECOND BISHOP OF CONNECTICUT.

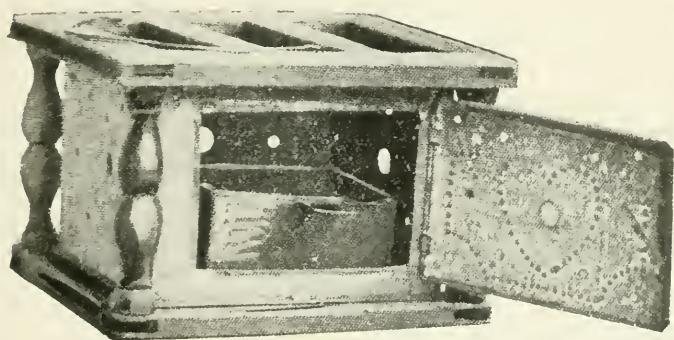
called Trinity Church, and be dedicated to the worship and service of Almighty God according to the Liturgy aforesaid. We, therefore, the Church-Wardens, Vestrymen, and Parishioners of Trinity Church, do for us and our successors, dedicate, appropriate, give and grant the said Church by us erected unto Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, to be conse-

crated and used for His Service and Worship according to the Liturgy aforesaid, divesting ourselves of all right and title and disclaiming all authority to employ it hereafter to any common or profane use. And we, the Church-Wardens, Vestrymen, and Parishioners aforesaid, do further resolve and vote that the two Church-Wardens, Mess. Reuben Beers and Samuel Meeker, do in our name and in our behalf, sign and seal this Instrument of Dedication, and do acquaint the Right Rev. Dr. Jarvis, our Diocesan Bishop therewith, and request that he would consecrate the said new Church to Almighty God and set it apart to be forever hereafter in His Service and His Worship, promising, so far as in us lies, to take care of the repairs of said Church, that it may be left, together with its furniture, sacred utensils, and books in a decent state for the Celebration of Divine Service: and also that we will, as God shall enable us, endeavor always to preserve and support a minister in Priest's Orders to Celebrate God's Holy Worship according to the Liturgy aforesaid. In witness whereof, we, the said Church-Wardens, have herewith set our hands and seals the day and year before mentioned.

Reuben Beers,
Samuel Meeker.

There are those still with us who worshipped in this Church on Mill Plain, and who remember well the primitive arrangements that characterized it, and which made it so vastly different from the commodious edifice in which we worship at the present time. At first it had no stove. Stoves were a rare luxury in those days, for the use of anthracite coal began at a farlater date. The women used "foot-stoves," (which may yet be found as relics, in the attics of old houses; the writer has one which he prizes highly, which belonged to the late Mrs. Francis D. Perry), or heated bricks, or stones, to warm their feet. Certain of the parishioners, living close by, took upon themselves to make extra fires on very cold Sundays, to supply the foot-stoves with live coals. A simple but high

reading-desk, held the great Bible, and Book of Common Prayer. Behind and above the reading-desk was the pulpit, which was reached by a short flight of stairs. The Communion-Table stood quite in front. During the service the congregation remained seated; and it required the action of the House of Bishops in 1814, to free those who desired to stand during the act of praise, from the imputation of introducing "a dangerous ritual innovation." Further than this simple modification, the service was precisely that in which Church-people now participate every Sunday. The Church's Worship, in its essentials, never alters. The fathers drew near to



FOOT STOVE USED IN THE MILL PLAIN CHURCH.

God in Litany, Collect, and General Confession; they praised the Most High in Venite, Jubilate, and TeDeum, and could they be in the flesh again, they would behold their children's children using the same old Prayer Book, unchanging and unchangeable "amid the wrecks of time;" and finding its words as did they, not mere "forms," but full and satisfactory expressions of the soul's deepest needs.

There is nothing in the Parish Record anterior to the year 1800. that touches upon other matters than Church-rates and Church-building, save one: In 1786, a committee was appointed "to make inquiry and endeavor to find out what

became of the plate,* for Communion Service, which belonged to the Church, and was taken from the Rev. Mr. Sayre, and take method for recovering the same; also the iron taken from the Church, with the stone; also the stone from Mr. Sayre's house, the parsonage." Andrew Eliot, in a letter, 1779, to his brother, the Congregational minister at Fairfield, no doubt explains the disappearance of the silver. "The Hessians were first let loose for rapine and plunder. They entered houses, attacked the persons of Whigs and Tories indiscriminately; breaking open trunks, desks, closets, and taking away everything of value. They robbed women of buckles, rings, bonnets, aprons, and handkerchiefs. Looking-glasses, china, and all kinds of furniture were soon dashed in pieces. Another party who behaved badly, were the American refugees, who, in revenge for their confiscated estates, carried on the same direful business."

So far as is known, no trace of the ancient Communion Service has ever been found. A silver paten, long in the possession of the parish, and thought by certain parishioners to be, possibly, a part of it, was given, it has been ascertained, by Mrs. Jeremiah Sturges, as a memorial of her father, the late Rev. Philo Shelton, Easter Day, 1826.

* A solid silver Service presented to the parish by Mr. St. George Talbot in 1762.

CHAPTER XI.

REV. PHILO SHELTON'S RECTORSHIP CONTINUED: THE LOTTERY
FOR THE RELIEF OF TRINITY PARISH, AND THE FOUNDING
OF THE BIBLE AND PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY.
BISHOP HOBART'S VISITATION, 1817—
1820, A. D.

Quite a notable event, bearing upon the history of Trinity Church, to which reference should be made, was the organization of a lottery, for the replenishment of the parish treasury. This was permissible under the Colonial laws, and does not appear to have done violence to the religious sentiment of the age. Indeed, lotteries were then greatly in vogue.* In 1774, "a lottery of £4,000 was projected to purchase a piece of ground, and erect a Church thereon for a congregation of the Church of England, which now assemble in Horse and Cart street, (now William's), New York." A month after, another lottery "was devised to erect a Church in Brooklyn, under the patro-

* Money was much needed. Taxes the people would not bear. To issue bonds would have been useless for the authorities could not have insured the interest on them for a week. Lotteries, therefore, sprang up, and in a short time there was a wheel in every city and in every town. Wherever there was a bridge to be thrown across a stream, a school-house built, a street paved, a road repaired, a manufacturing company to be aided, a church assisted, or a college treasury to be replenished, a lottery bill was passed by the Legislature, a wheel procured, a notice put in the papers, and often in a few weeks the needed money was raised. It was with the money collected from the sale of lottery tickets that Massachusetts encouraged cotton spinning, and paid the salaries of many of her officers; that the City Hall was enlarged at New York; that the Court House was built at Elizabeth; that the library was increased at Harvard; that many of the most pretentious buildings were put up at the Federal city. The custom, indeed, continued for several years, and the "State of the Wheel" became as regular an item in the papers as the ship news or prices current. *McMasters: History of the People of the United States*, Vol. I, p. 588.

nage of the Rector and Vestry of Trinity Church." This was the beginning of St. Ann's Church. Later a lottery was arranged for at Hempstead, called the "Church Glebe Lottery" with "not two blanks to a prize."

The fact was, that although quite two-score years had passed, Trinity parish had not recovered from the severe losses which befell it, by the destruction of Church and parsonage, and library in 1779; nor had it, in its impoverished condition, ceased to feel the financial strain caused by the erection of a new Church edifice, and its proper equipment for Divine worship. It was for these reasons that the authorities of the parish applied to the Legislature of the State, in the year 1818, "for the grant of a lottery, with liberty and authority to raise thereby the sum of six thousand dollars, as a remuneration for the Losses sustained by the parish, at the burning of the town." The application itself, explains and justifies the step thus taken so fully, that it is herewith reproduced: "Jeremiah Sturges, the present Clerk of the Episcopal Society at Fairfield, after considering the very low state of the Church, without any friends, and the great difficulty of raising money enough by Taxes on the members, to support the clergyman in the one-third part of his services, notwithstanding his small pittance of one hundred and eleven dollars and eleven cents per annum, and deeming it almost impossible to raise even that small sum by taxes, at a meeting of the parish held March 23, 1818, drew up the following petition" which was presented to the Hon. Gen. Assembly by the Gentlemen Representatives from this Town, (viz.) Gideon Tomlinson, Esq., and Mr. Thos. F. Rowland.

"To the Hon. Gen. Assembly of the State of Connecticut to be holden at Hartford, in said State, on the second Thursday of May next. The petition of Abraham Bulkley, Walter Sherwood, Hull Sherwood, Jesse Banks, and David Jennings, Wardens and Vestry of the Episcopal Church in the Town of Fairfield, in the County of Fairfield, and the rest of the

subscribers hereunto, members of said Church, humbly sheweth that the Church in Fairfield, together with the Parsonage House, Barn, and Out Houses, was burned by the British Troops, under Tryon, in the Revolutionary War, at the time that the Town of Fairfield was burnt in the year 1779, and that the plate to a considerable amount, belonging to said Church, was at the same time carried away by the enemy; now your petitioners would further inform the Hon. Gen. Assembly that with the funds that they heretofore held, and the small Grand List of less than one thousand dollars, they have been about twenty-seven years engaged in building another small house for public worship, but have been unable to complete the same, and in doing it they have been obliged to dispose of all their funds, and sell the principal part of their glebe lands, which was heretofore appropriated for the support of their clergyman, which altogether, has proved a Loss, or Burthen to the said Church, in consequence of which the members, with all their Zeal and Exertion find it very difficult and almost impossible for them to finish said Church, and at the same time to support their clergyman. Now your petitioners would further inform the Hon. Gen. Assembly that notwithstanding all Individuals and many Ecclesiastical Societies, that suffered Losses by the fire of so barbarous an enemy in the Revolutionary War, have by the Bounty of the Hon. Gen. Assembly, in some measure, been Remunerated, and knowing that all Societies and Individuals who suffered Losses by the fire of the enemy are equally entitled to the Bounty of the Hon. Legislature, to whom they have never applied in vain.

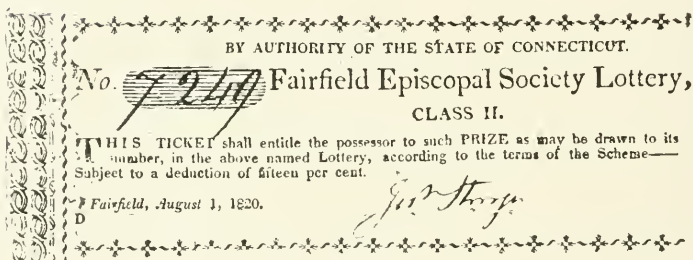
Your petitioners never intended, nor would they ask for any indemnity for their Losses, could they possibly surmount them by their own exertions.

Wherefore your petitioners appeal to the Hon. Gen. Assembly as the only Resource from which they can expect any Relief for their great Losses, and Burthen, and praying

your Honours to take their case into your wise consideration and grant them a lottery to raise the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars, not as a Remuneration for their Losses, or, in some other way grant Relief, and as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

Dated at Fairfield, this
sixth day of April, 1818.

Abraham Bulkley,
Walter Sherwood,
David Jennings,
Jesse Banks,
Hull Sherwood,
Jeremiah Sturges,
Wm. Robinson,
Abel Beers.



FAC SIMILE OF LOTTERY TICKET.

The answer to this appeal was permission to organize a lottery scheme that would give the parish a net sum of six thousand dollars, and a committee was appointed to carry out the project. February 9th, 1825, Jeremiah Sturges, the clerk of the parish, upon whom the chief part of the labor connected with the administration of the lottery, it would seem, had devolved, made his final report concerning it, which was duly accepted. He figured the total proceeds at \$4,752.13, or thereabouts. The interest of the lottery fund was voted year after year to Mr. Shelton, in payment of salary. Subsequently portions of the principal were used to pay parish debts; by the time the next Rector came in, it had all disappeared!

In the same year that the lottery was applied for, an undertaking of a different nature, and with more promise of lasting results, was brought to a successful issue. When the Rev. Mr. Johnson, *clarum et venerabile nomen*, who has been mentioned before in these pages, was a Congregational minister at West Haven, it will be remembered that he committed to memory, and used, as occasion required, in public worship, portions of the Book of Common Prayer, to the comfort of himself, and the edification of his flock. So much were they admired that, we are told, "it was common for persons belonging to the neighboring churches to come to West Haven on purpose to hear them. To this day it remains true that there is no better advocate for the Church, in any household, than the Prayer Book. Possessed with this view, a number of laymen, members of Trinity Church, met on the first day of January, 1818; and under the guidance of the Rector, Rev. Philo Shelton, formed "The Bible and Prayer Book Society of Trinity Parish." The object was stated to be the gratuitous distribution of the two volumes mentioned, first, in Trinity parish; next, in Fairfield County; afterwards, if the funds warranted such expenditure, in the Diocese of Connecticut, or in the Church at large. A constitution was adopted, officers elected, subscriptions received, and the work of distribution at once begun. No better thing, the present Rector of Trinity parish, who writes these Annals, feels constrained to say, has ever been done by it, than the founding of this admirable Society. The common complaint is, the masses are ignorant of the Church. It is then, the highest wisdom for us to circulate the Prayer Book among those to whom the Church is unknown. When people read those sublime prayers, which have been offered by king and peasant, as well as by martyrs going joyfully to the stake, and still are as applicable to their wants as if composed yesterday; and become imbued with their chaste language and terse style, and compare them with mere extemporaneous efforts, they

will begin to comprehend that there are worse prayers than are read from a book, and that they can come from the heart without being prepared for the occasion. Besides, the Prayer Book can enter many a house where our clergy cannot find a



THE RIGHT REV. JOHN HENRY HOBART, D. D.,
IN CHARGE OF THE DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT, JUNE, 1816, TO JUNE, 1819.

welcome. Acting as a "silent missionary," it may, as it often has done, prove a solvent of sectarian bitterness, by showing that Church doctrine is only Bible truth; and that Calvin's

theories, or those of Arminius, are not comparable to the simple Faith, once delivered to the Saints, as the old Apostolic Church holds and teaches it.

The Bible and Prayer Book Society is still in active existence (1898), and has given away, since its organization, nearly six thousand volumes. Its invested fund amounts to \$561.12. Thus, the good it has accomplished is worthy of the highest praise. The results of it in all their fulness, that great Day, when all that is hidden shall be revealed, can only make known.

After the death of Bishop Jarvis, the Bishop of New York, the Right Rev. John Henry Hobart, had the temporary oversight of the Church in Connecticut. On the 6th of August, 1817, he came to Fairfield, where he remained a week, making the place his headquarters, but visiting the meanwhile, Weston, Wilton, and Redding. In the Church at Mill Plain, on the 12th of August, he confirmed thirty candidates, all of whose names will be found in the appendix. At Tashua, the following week, he confirmed eighty-two, the largest class presented to him on this visitation, except the class at Chatham, (now Portland), which numbered one hundred and two. Truly, those were the days when the Church had an irresistible attraction for the multitude, and it proves that weariness of the leanness and uncertainties of man-made religious systems, is by no means a development peculiar to these modern days.

CHAPTER XII.

LATTER YEARS OF REV. PHILO SHELTON'S RECTORSHIP.

Mr. Shelton was exceptionally successful in the performance of the duties pertaining to two Rectorships. The parishioners of Trinity Church, at Fairfield, were devoted to him, while St. John's Church, at Bridgeport, under his care, grew to be one of the strongest and most flourishing in the Diocese. The initial services at Stratfield, were held, as has been already mentioned, by the Rev. Mr. Lamson in 1748, and the first parish Church was consecrated by Bishop Seabury, in 1789, being "the third in order of consecration, and the eighteenth in order of erection, in the Connecticut Diocese. It was built on the corner of the King's Highway, and Church Lane. Among the chief donors were Col. John Burr, Samuel Beardsley, Timothy Wheeler, Richard Booth, Joseph Seeley, and John Nichols. The population later began to drift eastward, and in 1801, it was deemed advisable to demolish the old Church, and build a new one in a more advantageous location. The second edifice was so far completed that it could be used for public worship in the beginning of Advent; and two years later, "the ground floor was sold at public vendue for the purpose of building the pews and seats thereon, and finishing the Church." The sum raised by the sale, amounted to between six and seven hundred dollars. The cost of the building over and above this, was thirty-five hundred dollars, which was met by the voluntary contributions of the people. Mr. Shelton in speaking of the completion of the whole work, said: "It had been conducted in harmony, with good prudence, strict economy, and a degree

of elegance and taste that does honor to the committee, and adds respectability to the place." But even this second removal of St. John's was not final. In a score of years, a third edifice was found to be necessary. This was located on the corner of Cannon and Broad streets, the site, eligibly located, having been presented by Phillip Cannon, Esq., Mrs. Shelton's brother-in-law. In these two successive Churches, belonging to St. John's parish, Mr. Shelton ministered most acceptably, one half of his time being given to Trinity Church, Fairfield, until 1824, when failing health, and a disposition manifested by the congregation of St. John's to have the undivided services of a clergyman, induced him to hand in his resignation. Among his papers, the following interesting data, pertaining to the last year of his joint Rectorship, were found :

Parochiales Notitiæ for Fairfield and Bridgeport :
 Philo Shelton, Rector, Easter, 1823, to Easter, 1824.

Baptisms in the two Churches, Infant, 16 ;

Adult, 1,	.	.	.	.	17
Marriages,	.	.	.	.	6
Funerals,	.	.	.	.	16
New Communicants in Fairfield,	7	}			12
" " " Bridgeport,	5				
Communicants in Fairfield,	.	.	.	.	78
" " Bridgeport,	.	.	.	.	120

"The congregation in Fairfield is not large, but very attentive and devout in Church. My services have been wholly confined to them since Easter, having at that time relinquished Bridgeport to my assistant, the Rev. Mr. Judah."

Fairfield, June the 1st, 1824.

As intimated above, Mr. Shelton gave all his time to the Church at Fairfield, after his health began to fail, and he had resigned the rectorship of St. John's, Bridgeport ; but he did not long survive the changed condition of affairs. He died on the 27th of February, 1825, and was buried under the chancel of the

Church at Mill Plain, at the altar of which he had ministered for more than forty years. A marble tablet was provided by the congregation to mark his resting place, on which, among other things, were inscribed the date of his birth, graduation, admission to Holy Orders, and the words, "The First Clergyman Episcopally ordained in the United States." The body was afterwards removed, at the charge of the Wardens and Vestry, to Mountain Grove Cemetery, Bridgeport, and an imposing monument, finely chiseled, in Italian marble, was placed over it, on which is inscribed:

IN MEMORY

OF THE

REV. PHILO SHELTON, A. B.

Born in Huntington, 1754. Died in 1825.

Graduated at Yale College in 1775, and was forty years

Rector of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, and of

Trinity Church, Fairfield, with the charge

also of the Church in Weston, for

many years.

"A faithful Pastor, a guileless and godly man. For twenty-four years member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, a firm supporter of Ecclesiastical Authority, and a gentle, but steady upholder of primitive and Apostolic Order. He was one of the four who first received ordination from the hands of the first American Bishop, the Right Rev. Samuel Seabury, D. D., who commenced on this Continent, in its full offices, the one Catholic and Apostolic Church, in the certain faith that it would continue to the end of the world. This monument is erected as a tribute of filial affection, and in grateful remembrance of the piety and virtue of loved and honored parents."

Mr. Shelton's passing away was universally lamented. It was felt that a good man, one whose noble life was open and manifest to the world, had been taken out of it. At the Diocesan Convention, held June 1st, 1825, Bishop Brownell

remarked in his address: "He has faithfully and successfully labored for almost forty years in the parish from which his Divine Maker has now called him to his rest. He has taken an important part in the Ecclesiastical concerns of the Diocese, from the period of its first organization; and the moderation and prudence of his counsels have contributed in no small degree to the welfare of the Church. For simplicity of character, amiable manners, unaffected piety, and a faithful



HOME OF REV. PHILO SHELTON.
FAIRFIELD AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

devotion to the duties of the ministerial office, he has left behind an example, by which all his surviving brethren may profit, and which few of them can hope to surpass."

A few days after Mr. Shelton's decease, the committee appointed by the parishioners of Trinity Church, forwarded the following letter of condolence to the bereaved widow: "Mrs. Shelton, Madam: We are appointed a committee and directed to wait upon and tender you the sincere condolence

of ourselves and the rest of the members of the Episcopal Society at Fairfield, for the great and grievous loss which you have sustained in the bereavement by death of our worthy, respected, and beloved Pastor, the Rev. Mr. Shelton, your late consort, and our best friend. Our sincere and humble prayers are offered to Almighty God, that his loss may be sanctified to you and your family, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and we humbly pray that He will have you in His Holy keeping, and that you may bear the loss with Christian fortitude, trusting in the widows' and the orphans' God for support and comfort. The loss to you, to us, and to those we represent, we feel to be great, and sincerely lament it, but humbly submit to the will of the Almighty, for He gave and He taketh away, therefore, blessed be the name of the Lord.

As the Rev. Mr. Shelton has been our Pastor, and spiritual Advisor for more than forty years, and has built us up, and kept us together as a Christian Church, we in our own names, and by the special direction of the rest of the members of the Episcopal Society, hereby beg and request that you will permit us to show our gratitude and respect for him by burying him under the Church in Mill Plain, and by erecting a proper monument over his body, commemorative of his worth, and merits, and of our love and affection for him. By complying, you will confer a great favor on your sincere friends and humble servants.

Walter Sherwood,
Hull Sherwood.

Committee from the Wardens and Vestry, and the members of the Episcopal Society in Fairfield."

The Bishop of the Diocese also wrote:

HARTFORD, March 17, 1825.

My Dear Mrs. Shelton:

I should have been with you in your affliction, to assure you of my sympathy and friendship, had it not been for the

extreme badness of the roads, and a slight attack of the prevailing influenza. I feel that I have lost one of my best friends and counsellors, and that the Diocese has lost one of its best patterns of ministerial faithfulness, and Christian simplicity: but our loss is nothing in comparison with yours. It is true, that with the constitution and unimpaired faculties



RIGHT REV. THOMAS C. BROWNELL, D. D.,
THIRD BISHOP OF CONNECTICUT.

of your late husband, we might have hoped that he would have been spared to us for several years to come; yet we ought rather to be grateful that he was preserved so long, and that he was taken away in the full maturity of his years—"like a shock of corn, fully ripe." Let this thought, my dear Madam, console you. It is the will of God, of a Being of infinite wisdom, who knows what is best for us, for our

friends, for the Church: a Being, whose every act is ordered in mercy and goodness. Let us then, ever bear in mind these attributes, and let us reflect on the multiplied ways in which they have been manifested to us. We shall then have reason to mingle our thanksgivings with our sorrows, and realizing the goodness and loving kindness of God, we shall seek support where all sufficiency alone resides.

Mrs. Brownell desires to unite with me in assurances of sympathy, and affectionate remembrances, to yourself and family. With great esteem, your

Friend and Pastor,

Thos. C. Brownell.

Addressed :

Mrs. Philo Shelton.

Mrs. Shelton survived her husband thirteen years. Two sons entered the ministry of the Church. The younger of them, George Augustus Shelton, a graduate of Yale college, died in 1863, Rector of St. James' Church, Newtown, Long Island. The other, succeeded his father as Rector of Trinity Church, Fairfield; and subsequently became the distinguished Rector of St. Paul's Church, Buffalo, the mother-parish of that important city.

CHAPTER XIII.

RECTORSHIP OF REV. WILLIAM SHELTON, 1825-29, A. D.



THE REV. WILLIAM SHELTON.

The Rev. Philo Shelton died February 27th, 1825, and Trinity parish, for the first time in forty years, found itself without a Rector. His removal speedily developed a great amount of incertitude. The times were hard; the congregation was in debt; consequently the prospect of supporting a clergyman became very dubious. At the last meeting of the parish,

held shortly before Mr. Shelton's death, February 9th, the pews were rented from "Easter Monday to the first Monday of January next," and brought a total of fifty-three dollars only. March 17th, there was another meeting, at which it was "resolved to appropriate one hundred and forty-five dollars, and seventeen cents, out of the funds of the lottery, to defray the debts against the Society." This partly explains why before the Rev. Wm. Shelton accepted the rectorship, in succession to his father, there was an effort made to combine the Fairfield parish, with that of Stratford. On April 18th, at a special meeting of the parish, it was voted, "that the parish of Fairfield unite with the parish of Stratford, in hiring or settling a clergyman, provided the two parishes can agree on the clergyman, and all other subjects regarding the hiring or settling him." Voted, "that Walter Sherwood, Joel B. Bulkley, and Hull Sherwood, be a committee to call on the Wardens and Vestry, or some committee appointed by the parish of Stratford, to ascertain the best terms on which the two parishes can unite, and report at the next meeting." After this action, whether it was that the parish at Stratford was not responsive, or that the Episcopalians of Fairfield had determined to raise sufficient money among themselves, to maintain a separate existence, a different opinion speedily prevailed. At another special meeting held April 25th, it was voted, "that the Episcopal Society of Fairfield would not unite with the Parish of Stratford at present." It may have been that an intimation that the Rev. Wm. Shelton was available, and the fact that the parish had a quantity of land that could be disposed of, the proceeds of which would help to pay expenses for some years to come, had a great deal to do with this complete reversal of opinion. Anyway, about the time the Rev. William Shelton began to officiate, it was voted to sell a piece of property, known as the Roxbury Farm, belonging to the parish, for eighteen hundred dollars. The congregation, in accordance with the doubtful policy it was

pursuing, now found itself in a position to pay the Rector's salary, and its other obligations.

Extract from the Parish Record: "Nov. 1825, Sunday after Thanksgiving-day, Rev. Wm. Shelton began to preach, and left the parish, August 9th, 1829."

The Rev. William Shelton was the son of the late Rector, and brought to his new charge all the fervor and sympathy that a life long acquaintance with it could impart. From the very beginning of his rectorship, his preaching drew large and attentive congregations; while his unremitting house to house visitations won for him the hearts of all his people. Fairfield was the first parish he served. In his convention sermon, 1826, Bishop Brownell remarked: "Rev. William Shelton has exhibited to me letters Dimissory from the Diocese of New York, and has been called to the parish at Fairfield. Few circumstances of my life have affected me with a stronger interest than his recent ordination in the Church at Fairfield, and at the altar beneath which the bones of his late venerated father rest in peace. He now cultivates the field where the same pious father so often bore the heat and burthen of the day, and where for more than forty years he labored in the service of his Divine master."

The parish continued its prosperous career. In 1827, the list of communicants had increased from 50 to 80. In 1828, the connection between the parishes of Fairfield and Weston was severed. By vote of the parish, the Rector's services were hereafter to be confined to his own people. For the first time in its existence, the services of its Rector were to be entirely devoted to it. And this change proved ultimately the turning point in its later history. While Fairfield village had been decreasing, numerically and materially, the tiny hamlet located at the mouth of Mill River, one mile westward, had all along been steadily growing. New buildings had been erected, and the population had largely increased. A disposition to change the name of the settlement from Mill River to

Southport, had also become manifest. Nor was the project lacking in earnest supporters. It was into this practically new community, that Mr. Shelton thought it advisable to introduce the Church. So far, no public religious services of any description had been held in the village. In prompt pursuance of his plan, Mr. Shelton made a beginning in October, 1828, in the upper room of the old Academy or school-house, now the well known residence of Mr. Jos. H. Furniss where he preached every third



THE OLD ACADEMY.
IN THIS BUILDING THE FIRST CHURCH SERVICES
IN SOUTHPORT WERE HELD,

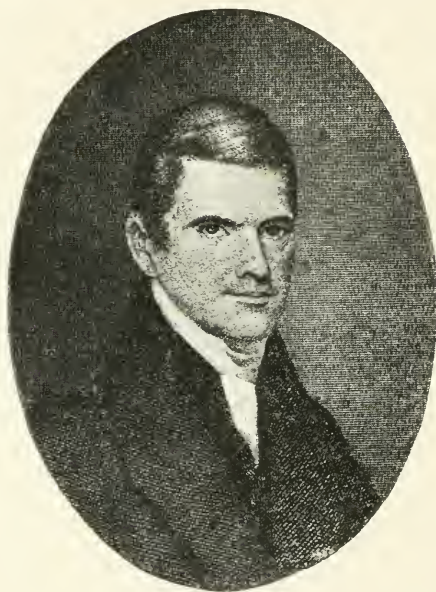
Sunday afternoon in the month. From the first, this experimental service was so well attended that it soon became apparent that the real centre of the parish, the point every way most convenient to the great majority of the parishioners, scattered as they were, from the village of Fairfield, to Green's Farms, and Saugatuck, was not Mill Plain, but Southport. The result was, the Church in that place became permanently established. In 1829, Mr. Shelton received a call to St. Paul's Church, Buffalo, New York. With unfeigned sorrow he decided

to sever the pleasant relations that had existed for four years, and enter upon a field of labor, that partook, even in those days, of even a more missionary character than that connected with the parish at Fairfield. Mr. Shelton's connection with St. Paul's Church, began on his thirty-first birthday, and lasted for fifty-four years. He died at his ancestral home at Bridgeport, October 11th, 1883, having been born at the same place, September 11th, 1798.

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CHAPTER XIV.

RECTORSHIP OF THE REV. CHARLES SMITH. ERECTION OF THE
CHAPEL AT SOUTHPORT, 1829-1834 A. D.



THE REV. CHARLES SMITH.

The Rev. Charles Smith, succeeded the Rev. Wm. Shelton in 1829. He was a man of positive character, fine culture, large experience, and the parish, under his guidance, made a perceptible and encouraging advance. The most remarkable feature pertaining to the four years of his Rectorship, was the growth of the work begun, tentatively, at Southport, by the Rev.

Wm. Shelton. As time passed, all the services held in the Academy building, were marked by the attendance of large congregations. The need of a proper and permanent structure, to be used as a Chapel to the Mill Plain Church, thus became apparent. The undertaking once started, speedily matured, and in 1832, the corner stone of a suitable building was laid with appropriate ceremonies, by the Rev. Francis L. Hawks, D. D., then Rector of St. Paul's Church, New Haven.

This, the fourth edifice built by Trinity parish, within one hundred and ten years, was most advantageously located on a gentle eminence, in the centre of the village, and was of easy access to all who desired to worship God, according to the Episcopal Form.* Bishop Benjamin Treadwell Onderdonk, of New York, consecrated the new Chapel, January 22nd, 1835.

The list of contributors to the Chapel is preserved in the Parish Record, and contains the names of so many who were active in Trinity Church, or interested in it at the time, and whose memory is worth perpetuating, that it is given in full. The land was purchased of Judson Sturges, and cost \$300. The size of the lot was seven by eight rods. The subscription paper reads as follows :

“We, the subscribers, being desirous of building a House in the Borough of Southport, to be dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, according to the forms of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to be known by the name of Trinity Chapel, belonging to the Episcopal Society in the Town of Fairfield, do promise to pay to Jeremiah Sturges, Esq., Treasurer of s'd Society, or his successor in Office, the several sums we have hereunto annexed to our names, and we do hereby constitute and appoint Jeremiah Sturges, Esq., Andrew Bulkley, William Sherwood, Jr., Walter Bulkley, Abel Beers, the committee to purchase the land and to superintend the erecting the said building, and to draw on the Treasurer of

* See map of Church sites, p. 33.

s'd Society, the amount subscribed for the above purpose, provided the several subscriptions hereunto annexed amount to two thousand dollars, one year from date. Otherwise, the subscriptions to be null and void. Witness our hand, Southport, January 13th, 1832."

Abel Beers,	\$100.00	Wm. Bulkley,	\$100.00
Jeremiah Sturges & Son,	200.00	Thos. Robinson,	30.00
Julius Pike,	100.00	L. B. Wakeman,	40.00
Jonathan Godfrey,	50.00	W. W. Wakeman,	40.00
Joseph Perry,	100.00	George Bulkley,	40.00
Walter Bulkley,	100.00	Charles Bulkley,	40.00
Judas Sherwood,	100.00	Hezekiah Davis,	35.00
Wm. Robinson & family,	100.00	Andrew Bulkley,	50.00
Wm. Sherwood, Jr.,	50.00	Simon Sherwood,	25.00
Henry Perry,	150.00	M. A. Sherwood,	30.00
Charles Perry,	50.00	B. A. Hawkins,	25.00
Moses Bulkley,	50.00	Hull Sherwood,	40.00
Aaron J. Hubbell,	20.00	Joseph Jennings,	15.00
Jon. Bulkley,	25.00	Andrew Bulkley,	10.00
Levi Down,	10.00	Timothy Williams,	10.00
Gordon Perry,	25.00	Aaron Jennings,	10.00
W. D. Dimon,	10.00	Jessup Wakeman,	50.00
Stephen Osborn,	40.00	E. Sherwood,	10.00
Joseph W. Davis,	50.00	Rachael Penfield,	10.00
Walter Sherwood,	50.00	Rev. Francis L. Hawks,	5.00
James Bulkley,	10.00	Eleazar Bulkley,	100.00
Hezekiah Bulkley,	10.00	Griselda and Mary	
Jessup Alvord,	10.00	Bradley,	50.00
Lyman Betts,	10.00	Henry Beers,	10.00
Ebenezer Dimon,	40.00	David Coley,	5.00
Jon. Sturges,	5.00	Aaron Sherwood,	5.00
Henry Dudley,	10.00	R. M. Sherman,	10.00
Anna Robinson,	5.00	Sarah Hull,	25.00
L. H. Bulkley,	50.00		

Two years only elapsed, and the attendance showing a constant increase, it was decided that the Chapel needed greater seating capacity. A second subscription paper was started, and in a brief space of time, the amount requisite, was pledged. A copy is herewith appended: "We, the subscribers, promise

to pay to Jeremiah Sturges, Esq., Treasurer of the Episcopal Society of Fairfield, or his successor in office, the respective sums annexed to our names, for the purpose of raising the sum of Four Hundred Dollars, to be applied to building an additional square of about 12 feet in extension of the length of Trinity Church, in Southport, the s'd subscription not to be binding unless the sum of Four Hundred Dollars shall be raised on or before the 23rd inst.

Southport, April 16th, 1834.

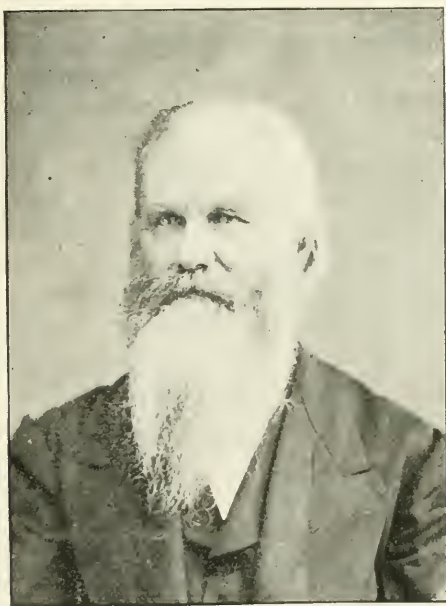
Ladies' Association,	\$100.00	Charles T. Nichols,	\$10.00
Maurice Wakeman,	25.00	Chas. Thorp,	10.00
Lot Bulkley,	25.00	Sellick Sherman,	10.00
Thos. Robinson,	25.00	Capt. John Hull,	10.00
Wm. Bulkley,	20.00	David Bradley,	10.00
Andrew Bulkley,	20.00	N. B. Alvord,	5.00
Simon Sherwood,	15.00	Geo. Robinson,	5.00
Smith Robinson,	15.00	J. B. Wakeman,	5.00
Moses Bulkley,	10.00	Chas. Thorp, additional,	5.00
W. B. Meeker,	10.00	Albert Whitmar,	5.00
Henry Perry,	10.00	Henry Beers,	5.00
J. W. Davis,	10.00	James Bulkley,	5.00
Henry Sturges,	10.00	Jessup Alvord,	5.00
Chas. Perry,	10.00	Aaron Sherwood, Jr.,	5.00
Hull Sherwood,	10.00	David Bradley,	5.00
Polly and Griselda Bradley,	10.00	Abel Ogden,	3.00
		Geo. Ogden,	2.00
Jeremiah Sturges,	10.00	L. Down,	2.50
James Jennings,	10.00	Joseph Sturges,	1.50

Very shortly after the addition to the Chapel had been decided upon, Mr. Smith's failing health made it imperative that he should seek a cure requiring less labor on his part; and the joint rectorship of two small parishes, St. Peter's Church, and Christ Church, at Oxford, Connecticut, having been offered to him, he tendered his resignation to the Vestry. As his ministry had been most successful, and the congregation was devoted to him, he was strongly urged to withdraw it. He plead, in return, that it be accepted because of his

inability to do the work required of him, and so, with great reluctance, the Vestry permitted him to depart. He was a faithful Pastor, and an excellent preacher. There are still those living, who treasure, with great affection, the remembrance of his ministrations.

CHAPTER XV.

RECTORSHIP OF REV. NATHANIEL E. CORNWALL: TRANSFER OF
SERVICES FROM MILL PLAIN TO SOUTHPORT: DEMOLI-
TION OF THE MILL PLAIN CHURCH: BUILDING
OF THE FIRST PARSONAGE HOUSE,
1834-1853, A. D.



THE REV. NATHANIEL E. CORNWALL.

On Mr. Smith's removal to Oxford, Trinity parish found itself once more without a Rector. The interregnum, however,

proved to be of brief duration, for the Vestry soon filled the vacancy, by calling to the Rectorship, the Rev. Nathaniel E. Cornwall, one of the most faithful and efficient ministers that the parish has ever had. Mr. Cornwall was descended from some of the best known New England families. Born in 1812, he was educated at Cheshire Academy, in which institution, his father, the Rev. Asa Cornwall, was for many years an instructor. He was graduated at the head of his class in Trinity College, Hartford, and went from thence to the General Theological Seminary in New York. Having finished his studies there, he came to Southport, and officiated for the first time, the eighth Sunday after Trinity, 1834. The Chapel in Southport was just then undergoing enlargement, and not being quite ready for occupancy, Divine service was held, one-third of the time in the Academy, and two-thirds of the time in the Church at Mill Plain. Early in 1835, the Chapel was completed, and at once became the religious centre of the neighborhood. It was the only Church edifice at that period, in the village. The nearest Congregational Society was at Fairfield, a mile distant. The Methodists had not made their appearance. All who loved Christ, irrespective of denominational differences, worshipped together in delightful accord. So remarkable was this manifestation of Christian unity, that it moved Mr. Frederick Marquand, one of the leading citizens of Southport, and also a strong Congregationalist, to present Trinity Chapel with a substantial proof of his good-will. A copy of the letter accompanying his gift has been preserved, and will doubtless interest all who peruse these pages:

NEW YORK, 30 March, 1835.

Rev. Mr. Cornwall:

Dear Sir—I take the liberty of making you the medium of offering to the Episcopal Society of Southport, for their acceptance, a silver plated Communion-Service. It is *not* of solid silver, but of a quality that will present the same appearance for more than half a century, (with the ordinary usage).

It is offered as a tribute of my regard for the Christian welfare, and prosperity of the Society. With sentiments of esteem,

I remain, your ob't se'v't and friend,

Frederick Marquand.

This Communion-Service is still in the possession of the parish. The popularity of Trinity Chapel, as was to be expected, militated against that of the old parish Church at Mill Plain. At the annual meeting of 1835, it was "voted, that Divine service shall be held at the Chapel of Trinity Church, at Southport, two-thirds of the time, for one year." At the next annual meeting, 1836, the same arrangement was continued. It required no prescience, therefore, to discern which way matters were tending. The parish had two Houses of Worship: one in a thinly settled location; the other in the midst of a thriving village. Inevitably, in such a case, the latter would prove more attractive than the former. Experience, moreover, had shown that the Chapel situate in Southport, was perfectly accessible. Those Episcopalians, who dwelt in the village of Fairfield, were scarcely any further from it, than they were from the Church at Mill Plain; while those living on Greenfield Hill, at Green's Farms, and at Saugatuck, also found Southport equally as convenient. Above all, the new location furnished a majority of the worshippers. In the "Account of the Pews let in Trinity Church, Mill Plain, Jan. 5th, 1835, there are only fourteen names, and but one of them is wanting in the "List of Pews let in the Chapel at Southport," of the same date. On the other hand, the Chapel list contains forty-three names, and it shows also, that not only was almost every sitting rented, but that all who worshipped at Mill Plain, with one exception, were sufficiently contented with the Chapel, to become pew holders therein, and to attend its services regularly.

These pew lists are printed for the edification of those interested in "Auld Lang Syne." They contain the names of many,

ACCOUNT OF PEWS LET IN TRINITY CHAPEL, SOUTHPORT, JAN. 5TH, 1836.

No.	South Side.
14	Andrew Bulkley
15	Joseph Davis
16	Henry Perry

No.	North Side.
19	William Bulkley
18	Abra'm D. Wood
17	Timothy Williams

No.	South Wall Seats
13	Jeremiah Sturges
12	Hezekiah Davis
11	G. & M. Bradley
10	Jesup W. Wakeman
9	Aaron J. Hubbel
8	Wm. S. Sherwood
7	James Perry
6	Julius Pike
5	Jonathan Godfrey
4	Ward Bulkley
3	
2	
1	

No.	Seats.	No.
42	Clergyman's Seat	42
41	Elias Steinburg	41
40	Walter Sherwood	40
39	Walter Bulkley	39
38	Moses Bulkley	38
37	David B. Sturges	37
36	Aaron Jennings	36
35	Benj. N. Hawkins	35
34	Abel Beers	34
33	George Ogden	33

No.	North Wall Seats.
20	Charles Bulkley
21	Justus Sherwood
22	Judson Nichols
23	Joel B. Bulkley
24	William Canedy
25	William Sherwood
26	Stephen Godfrey
27	David Bradley
28	
29	
30	
31	
32	

ACCOUNT OF PUEWS LET IN TRINITY CHURCH, MULL PLAIN, JAN. 5TH, 1836.

No.	South Side Pew.	No.	South Side Slips.	North Side Slips.	No.	South Side Pew.	No.
1		1			1		1
2		2	Abel Beers		2	Jeremiah Sturges	2
3	William Bulkley	3	Henry Nash		3	Joseph W. Davis	3
4		4			4	Walter Sherwood	4
5	William Sherwood	5	Jesup W. Wakeman.		5	Abel Ogden	5
6	Walter Bulkley	6			6	Andrew Bulkley	6
7	Hull Sherwood	7			7		7
8	Moses Bulkley	8			8		8
9	George Smith				9		9
10					10		10

whose professional and business acumen contributed largely to the successful development of Southport and its vicinity, and whose descendants are active members of Trinity Church at the present time.

From 1836 onwards, the attendance at the Mill Plain Church waned, so that the expense of keeping it open, and in repair, became an ever increasing burden. In 1841, the unwisdom of endeavoring to maintain two houses for worship, became self-evident, and at a meeting of the parish, held December 20th, 1841, a committee was appointed, consisting of Andrew Bulkley, Jesse Banks, and Abel Beers, to devise "the lawful means for annexing Trinity Church, Mill Plain, to the Chapel at Southport, and to devise ways and means for having continuous services at said Chapel." At a special parish meeting, March 28th, 1842, the committee reported: "that they have made all necessary inquiries of legal gentlemen, and find that due notice of the intention being given, in the warning for the meeting to be held, the Society when assembled, may remove the services by two-thirds of the members present voting for the removal." The meeting then adjourned to the last Monday in June, at 2 o'clock, when a vote being taken, the requisite two-thirds voted affirmatively, that the Chapel at Southport should henceforth be the Church of the parish, and that the Church at Mill Plain, should remain closed, except for such occasional services as the Rector might appoint.

By this sensible action, the parish was materially strengthened, for henceforth it was enabled to concentrate upon the care and maintenance of one edifice, that which had been found wholly inadequate when divided between two: and it further conducted to bring about a congregational solidarity, such as was impossible under the conditions previously existing. It also greatly bettered the lot of the Rector, for, in 1844, the parish felt strong enough to venture upon the erection of a parsonage-house, convenient to the parish Church: and also to materially

add to the Rector's salary. In a letter to the parishioners of Trinity Church written about this time, Mr. Cornwall says: "the increase of my salary, in addition to the provision of a commodious parsonage, I consider an example on the part of my beloved parishioners, worthy of commendation by their Pastor, and of imitation by the members of other parishes." When a permanent home for the Rector was decided upon, it was thought advisable to take down the Church at Mill Plain,



THE FIRST SOUTHPORT PARSONAGE.

even occasional services having ceased to be held there, and use whatever material contained in it, that might be found available in the construction of the new building. This was done, and in its changed form, the venerable edifice, built in 1790-1795, exists substantially to-day, in the structure located close by what is known as the "Rectory crossing." The bell of the old Church was sold to the Methodist Society at Saugatuck, and is doing good service at the present time.

Mrs. Cornelia Ann Short, who worshipped in the Mill Plain Church, still retains vivid memories of it, and the recollection of one feature, she has enshrined in beautiful verse, which may fitly find place in these Annals :

THE OLD CHURCH BELL.

Methought I heard it now,

Its silvery tones vibrating along
The vale, and o'er the hills, as if perchance
Some wandering mortal should escape the
Sound, and thus forget God's Holy Day.

But

Ah! 'tis Fancy's dream—no more those walls will
Echo with thy music. Yet even that
Imaginary sound has touched a cord
Which vibrates to the Past—and Memory
With magic power calls up the scenes of
Early years, when first my childhood's steps were
Taught with awe, to enter in that hallowed
Place—where Christ's ambassador, with accents
Firm, but mild, precepts instilled, which till
Life's latest hour will ne'er grow dim. Who
In his arms received the unconscious babe, and
With baptismal dew, impressed upon
Its brow the liquid Cross, a sign to guide
The Christian through the narrow way—and hours
When oft I've watched thy iron tongue as
It pealed in joyous tones for the gay
Bridal, or tolled the sad funeral knell.
The festal Christmas time, when all
With ready hand, there met—bright evergreens to
Twine round columns high, and with the darker
Fir to decorate the vaulted Fane. From
Each old window arched, were gleaming lights
And merry hearts were thronging there, to sing
The praise of Bethlehem's Babe.

'Tis changed :
And voices that mingled in the chorus
Of redeeming love on earth, are hushed, we
Trust, but to resume the seraphic lays
Of Heaven—and other hearts, once wont to
Meet around that sacred board, now mourn that
Not a trace remains to mark the place once
Consecrate with heavenly themes.

Time hastens !
A small young tree now rears its verdant top
Where the Church tower raised its glistening
Spire.—And when in future years its branches
Wave, and children play about its roots will
There be none to pause amid the group, and
Tell the historic tale, or speak of those
Who, on each returning hallowed day
Welcomed the sound of that Old Bell, and
Gladly met for worship, praise and prayer ?

MRS. C. A. SHORT.

Fairfield, Conn.

In 1846, the New York and New Haven Railroad came into existence, and its roadway was located so near the parsonage, that the noise of passing trains, and the continuous shriek of the engine's whistle, made it wholly undesirable for a residence. This drawback continued to intensify with the rapid growth of the traffic done by the company, and it was accordingly determined that the parsonage should be offered for sale. In 1891, the railway company, finding the land pertaining to it necessary for the carrying out of the proposed duplication of its roadbed, bought the property for \$3,500, and it is now in their possession.

CHAPTER XVI.

CONTINUATION OF REV. NATHANIEL E. CORNWALL'S RECTORSHIP : STATE OF THE PARISH: RESIGNATION, 1834-1853 A. D.

In the annual report of the state of the parish, printed in the Convention Journal of 1835, the Rector imparts the following information: "The number of families in the parish this year may be reckoned at 80. In this list, however, several single persons, unconnected with any other members of the parish, are counted as families. It may be, therefore, better to state the whole number of souls comprised in the cure, which may be estimated at 320. Of these 107 are communicants. There have been 9 communicants added during the year, 3 have died, 1 has removed. It is proper here to observe that the number of communicants in the parish last year, was incorrectly reported. The error was caused by copying from the record of the former Rector, without reference to the period of vacancy in the cure, during which there had been several removals. Eleven persons have been confirmed, eleven infants baptized, and the number of deaths is eleven. There have been no marriages in the parish, though I have three times solemnized the bans for persons from abroad. The number of Sunday scholars is about 60; teachers 14. From thirty to forty persons generally attend the meetings of the Bible class. The regular members of the class, who recite from Jackson's Questions on the Lessons, &c., do not exceed 20. A meeting of the Sunday school teachers has been held monthly, and is to be continued hereafter twice a month. The object of these meetings is to secure for the school that pastoral supervision which the spirit of the

rubric concerning catechizing seems to require, and to render the labors of the teachers more efficient, by means of a mutual and free interchange of the results of individual experience, and the familiar exhortations of duty. The monthly missionary



"THE OLD CHURCH ON THE HILL."

THE FOURTH CHURCH EDIFICE ERECTED BY TRINITY PARISH.

meeting has been kept up through the year with such success as to afford abundant encouragement for perseverance. The object of these meetings is to diffuse missionary intelligence, and thus nourish that missionary spirit which *the Church* supposes to exist wherever the nature of the Sacrament of

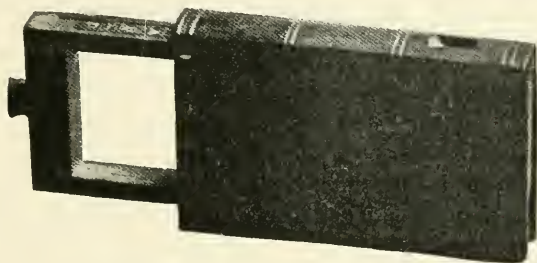
baptism is rightly appreciated—a spirit which only languishes where it does languish—for want of appropriate sustenance. The sum of \$90.60 has been raised for benevolent purposes, since January, chiefly by the plan of weekly contributions. Of this sum, \$40.21 have been appropriated by the contributors, to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society; \$15.00 to Bp. Smith, for Churches in Kentucky; \$12.50 to the Fairfield County Missionary and Education Society; \$14.79 to the Sunday school of the parish, and \$8.10 to the Society for the Promotion of Christian knowledge.

These contributions for benevolent purposes are exclusive of the sum of \$250.00, which has been realized by the Ladies' Association, as the fruits of their industry in plain sewing, and applied by them to the furnishing of the new Chapel in Southport, which was consecrated on the 22nd of January last, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Onderdonk.

The Chapel is about a mile distant from the old Church, and is occupied by the same congregation, services being held in the Chapel two-thirds of the time. It is one of the most commodious edifices to be found in the country parishes of the diocese, and is perhaps remarkable among Episcopal Churches in this State, as being the first and only house of public worship in the village where it stands."

All this is interesting, inasmuch as it shows what was the condition of Trinity parish in the year 1835. A few years later, as we have already seen, the Chapel became the parish Church, and was henceforth the only edifice used for public worship by the congregation. And what a multitude of delightful memories, even to this day, cluster about that "Old Church on the Hill," as the Chapel, in time came to be called! Its location was probably the best that the parish has ever had, or will have. The views of woodland and the blue waters of Long Island Sound, were a perpetual feast to the eye: while the fact that it was in the very midst of the village, made it perfectly accessible to all. There was a

sturdiness moreover, in those who worshipped in it, that is sadly lacking in this age. The Church was the first object of their affections; not the last. Sunday was strictly given to God; not devoted to secular enjoyments. A little bad weather, or the slightest bodily or mental indisposition, did not keep them from the Sanctuary. The festal days of the Church were also highly appreciated. Miss Anna E. Cornwall, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Cornwall, in a recent letter, says: "Has any one described to you the unique way of illuminating the Church for the Christmas-Eve service, that prevailed in the old days?



PITCH PIPE USED IN THE MILL PLAIN CHURCH.

A square wooden framework, twined with evergreens, was erected in the body of the Church, just high enough above the pews, to clear the heads of the occupants. This framework was pierced with holes four or five inches apart, large enough for a good sized candle. Along the galleries, across the end, and on the sides, similar boards extended, pierced in the same way. The candles having been put in place, and there were hundreds of them, they were lighted shortly before the service began, and being large and solid, lasted until the end. The effect was so pleasing that the Church could scarcely hold all who came from far and near to the Christmas-Eve service."

A communication from another of those who treasure pleasant recollections of this period says: "The music in the 'Old Church on the Hill' should not be forgotten. It was the free-will offering of those who took part in it. It was not artistic, but it was hearty and sincere." In the early days, the pitch of the tune of the psalm to be sung was set by a tuning-fork. This was the custom in the Church at Mill Plain. In the "Old Church on the Hill," the tuning-fork was supplanted, at first by a base-viol. This was played sometimes by Timothy Williams, at others, by Aaron Jennings, while the vocal parts were rendered by a quartette, and a numerous chorus of volunteers. In 1848, progress was in the air; culture, especially in the direction of Church music, began to exert a potent influence; an organ, something hitherto unheard of, was resolved upon. Again a subscription paper was passed round, and at the annual parish meeting in 1849, the organ committee reported that they had "paid \$800 for the organ and additions now in the Church, and about \$70 toward altering the Gallery for the same, and that it needed \$120 to finish paying all the claims." The committee's report being accepted, it was further "voted that Jonathan Godfrey be added to the committee, and that they continue to solicit subscriptions to the amount required." The organ proved to be of excellent quality, and helped to advance the music of Trinity Church to a highly satisfactory standard. The first to perform upon the instrument, was Miss Anna B. Cornwall; later, she was succeeded by Mr. John H. Wood, who served the parish most faithfully, in the capacity of organist, for many years. The choir, that sang on the occasion of what, unwittingly to it, was the last service held in the old Church, was composed of the following persons: Miss Mary Ann Bulkley, Miss C. Malvina Bulkley, Miss Louisa D. Bulkley, Miss Mary Frances Burr, Miss Mary Josephine Bulkley, Miss Elizabeth D. Banks, Miss Mary Jane Banks, Miss Sarah Burr Bulkley, Miss Mary Jane Bulkley, Miss

Emily Davis, Miss Cornelia Davis, Miss Jerusha Robinson, Mr. George Bulkley, Mr. Andrew Bulkley, Mr. Francis Jelliff, Mr. Edgar Burroughs, and Mr. John H. Sherwood. These young women, in the course of time, became, most of them, the staid and sober matrons, whose unswerving loyalty to the



JEREMIAH STURGES,
VESTRYMAN, CLERK, AND TREASURER OF TRINITY PARISH,
1801-1845.

parish proved to be one of the chief sources of its subsequent prosperity. Of the gentlemen who sung in the choir of the "Old Church on the Hill," Mr. John H. Sherwood, is, so far as the writer knows, the only one who survives.

While Mr. Cornwall was Rector, Mr. Jeremiah Sturges, one of the great leaders of the parish, finished his earthly course. His death took place, December 12th, 1845. As vestryman, and also parish clerk, and treasurer, he served continuously from 1801, to the time of his decease. Well known in the community for his eminent executive ability, it was the common remark, that nowhere did he bestow it with more devotion, and with less of stint, than in behalf of Trinity parish. Walter Sherwood, Henry Perry, and Walter Bulkley, all prominent among the vestry of the parish, passed to their rest during Mr. Cornwall's incumbency.

But in one respect, this is anticipating events. Long before the final services of the choir, to which reference has been made, were rendered, the crying need was for more room, for those desiring to form part of the congregation. Every seat in the Church was taken; applicants were many in number. At the annual meeting, held December 8th, 1851, it was voted, after an informal discussion, "that the building should be again enlarged, and that a special committee be appointed to contract for an addition to the Church, extending out the same, in the rear 12 feet, more or less; of sufficient height to have the pulpit and desk moved back, forming an arch from the gallery, and make additional seats to fill up the space thus added. Also to add to the east side of said building, near the north end of vestry room, from 8 to 12 feet square, and open the present vestry room—provided it can all be done for the sum of six or seven hundred dollars." While the project was pending, for it necessitated the purchase of additional land to make it effective, Mr. Cornwall received an invitation to a new field of labor, which he felt it was his bounden duty to accept.

At the annual meeting, December 20th, 1853, the probable retirement of the Rector was announced to the parish, and a special committee was appointed, "to express the regret entertained by all at the contemplated separation, and the desire that he might resolve to remain." But time only the

more convinced Mr. Cornwall that his duty lay elsewhere. At his request, a special meeting was convened, March 14th, 1853, to accept his resignation. Capt. Abel Beers was called to the chair, and the following letter from Mr. Cornwall was read :

March 14th, 1853.

To the Wardens and Vestrymen of Trinity Church :

Beloved Brethren:—You are already aware that a serious consideration of the subject of my communication to you at the late annual meeting of the parish, has led to my acceptance of the very earnest call to another field of labor to which my attention was directed. I take the earliest opportunity afforded by the appointment of the special meeting, this day to tender you my resignation of the pastoral care of this parish, from the close of the present quarter, on the tenth of April ensuing. I need not say in the prospect of such a change of the interesting relation in which we have been so long and so happily united, that there is much that is adapted to excite the most tender sympathies of our hearts. Commending you to God, and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up, imploring for you all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus, and desiring your best wishes and prayers for my own usefulness, I am, with best wishes for each of you,

Affectionally yours in Christ,

N. E. Cornwall.

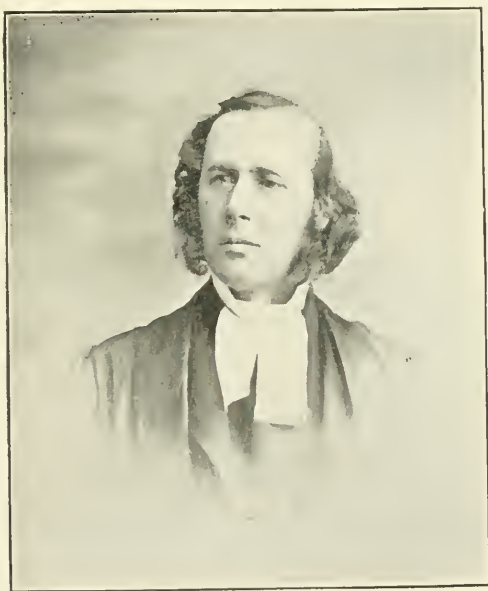
On motion of Capt. Jonathan Godfrey it was resolved unanimously not to accept the Rector's resignation. Mr. Cornwall came into the meeting, and having expressed with much feeling his appreciation of the kindness shown to him, stated the urgency of the call, and the necessity that was laid upon him to accept it. Capt. Godfrey, thereupon moved the reconsideration of the former vote, and the acceptance by the parish of Mr. Cornwall's resignation, both of which were agreed to. After passing a resolution testifying to the high regard "in which the retiring Rector was held by the parish, as well as to the

faithful discharge of his various and arduous duties, oftentimes under disheartening and adverse circumstances," the meeting adjourned.

The Rev. Mr. Cornwall's Rectorship, thus unexpectedly brought to a close, was one of the most memorable in the history of the parish. A man of great urbanity of character; of unusual administrative ability; of fine scholastic and theological attainments; of intense evangelical fervor and piety, it was most natural that the charge entrusted to his spiritual oversight, should prosper. For nineteen eventful years, notwithstanding the fact that during that period, questions of momentous import, that gave rise frequently to acute differences of opinion, came up for settlement, he held his congregation together as a unit. By common consent, the entire community of the Town of Fairfield, irrespective of religious affiliations, thoroughly respected him. As Rector of St. Andrew's Church, Pittsburg, to which place he went after leaving Southport, and later of St. Matthew's Church, New York, he continued for many years the same career of usefulness. The writer of these Annals knew him well, and that only, as did all who were favored with his friendship, to admire and love him to the end of his earthly days. He died in New York City, August 28th, 1879, aged 69 years.

CHAPTER XVII.

RECTORSHIP OF THE REV. JAMES SOUVERAINE PURDY: DESTRUCTION
OF THE FOURTH CHURCH BY FIRE—CHANGE OF SITE, AND
BUILDING OF THE FIFTH CHURCH, 1853–1858, A. D.



REV. JAMES S. PURDY.

At a special meeting held May 10th, 1853, the Rev. James S. Purdy, at the time a tutor in Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., was unanimously called to fill the vacant Rectorship. The invitation was accepted by Mr. Purdy, and he forthwith

began his ministrations, coming to Southport for the Sundays, until the College commencement took place, when he removed to the village, and assumed full charge of the parish. On Sunday, July 20th, 1853, he was admitted to the Priesthood, by the Bishop of the Diocese, in the parish Church. The same year, he took to himself a wife, the accomplished daughter of the Rev. Samuel Roosevelt Johnson, Professor in the General Theological Seminary, New York. As was to be expected, the parish under the guidance of its new and efficient Rector, moved auspiciously forward. The congregations were large; the spiritual interest perceptibly on the increase. The only thing imperatively needed was a larger Church. On January 16th, 1854, at a special meeting of the parish it was voted, "that a committee, consisting of Benjamin Pomeroy, William Bulkley, and Allen Nichols, be appointed and have authority to contract for the enlargement, according to the plan heretofore adopted, adding twenty seats and a vestry room on the east end of the Church. Also voted, that the amount required for said expenses, be first raised by a subscription." While this was impending, a serious and unlooked for event intervened. Extract from the Parish Record: "Saturday, March 11th, 1854. The Church burnt to the ground this p. m., between four and six o'clock. Insured for \$3,500, and \$800 on the organ."

Once more the calamity of 1779 was repeated, and the parish was again homeless! In a couple of hours, the Sanctuary, endeared to many hearts by the holiest of associations, the outcome of so much sacrifice and zeal on the part of those who worshipped within its sacred walls, had wholly disappeared. How the building caught fire has ever remained a mystery. But, although the catastrophe was overwhelming, one striking feature connected with it was observable. The parish officials met the emergency with great promptness. Preparations for holding Divine service as usual, were immediately begun. The old Academy was put in the best condi-



TRINITY CHURCH
Southport, Ct

FIFTH CHURCH EDIFICE, DESTROYED BY TORNADO, 1862.

tion possible; and on the morrow, the congregation assembled there. Thus, by the stress of events, it had come back to the spot where its worship, so far as Southport was concerned, had its beginning. It was in 1838, that the Rev. William Shelton had conducted the first religious service ever held in the village, in that same building. Truly, it was a heavy burden that was thus thrust upon it; so felt the sorrowful flock gathered in the old school-house that eventful Sunday morning; but, then and there, it was resolved that the Church should be "built again, as in former times;" and that the "glory of the latter house should greatly exceed that of the former." A council of the prominent members of the parish was speedily held, and it was unanimously voted, to proceed at once to erect a new Church edifice. As the growth of the village was continuously westward, the consensus of opinion was in favor of a different location from that occupied by the Church recently destroyed, and a change of site was decided upon. A lot on Pequot avenue, the principal avenue of the village was purchased, and the construction of a large and commodious structure was begun. Messrs. Moses Bulkley, Jonathan Godfrey, Augustus Jennings, William Bulkley, and Allen Nichols, composed the committee to supervise its construction, and William Nash was chosen for the architect. The corner stone was laid in October, 1854, with appropriate ceremonies, by the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese; and from that time the work of construction rapidly advanced.

While the old Academy was most conveniently situated, and was also freely placed at the disposal of Trinity's, now Churchless, congregation, it had one conspicuous defect—it was too small. Not half of those who desired to attend service, could be accommodated in it. The building committee was further charged, in view of this state of affairs, to find a more suitable place in which the congregation might assemble. They decided upon the Parsonage barn, and that building was at once put in order for public worship, and was so used during

the summer of 1853. St. Barnabas Chapel, it was popularly called, and a very comfortable temporary place for holding service, those who frequented it, assure us it was. One marriage ceremony, that of Juliette, daughter of the village physician, Dr. Justus Sherwood, and Marcus B. Roosevelt, took place June 13th, 1853, within its walls, the Rector officiating. In the late autumn, when the atmosphere grew chilly, Divine service was transferred to the Odd Fellows' Hall; and still later, when winter really set in, to Washington Hall, the upper story of the village school house, then just completed.

The new Church, the fifth erected by the parish since its organization, was ready for use, early in 1856, and on the 31st of January, was consecrated by the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese. A clergyman, Rev. J. H. Short, allied by marriage to the parish, who was present on the occasion, has preserved for us the following interesting account of the ceremony:

"The day was one of the most beautiful of the whole month. At half-past ten, a congregation of nearly a thousand persons had collected within the walls of the Church, to witness and participate in the services.

The Assistant Bishop met the Clergy and Wardens and Vestrymen of the parish, at the house of Capt. Jonathan Godfrey. At eleven o'clock the procession was formed, and proceeded in reverse order to the door of the Church. The Bishop then entered, followed by the Clergy and officials of the parish. The 24th Psalm was repeated alternately by the Bishop and Clergy, as they were going up the aisle to the chancel. There were present of the Clergy, besides the Bishop, the Rev. Drs. Mead, Coit, Todd, Hallam, and the Rev. Dr. Johnson, Professor in the General Theological Seminary: the Rev. Dr. Goodwin, President of Trinity College; and the Rev. Prof. Jackson: the Rev. Messrs. Purdy, Purves, Stimson, Fisher, Adams, Robertson, Judd, Godfrey, Lewis, Stearns, Cander, Bronson, Short, Potter, Bostwick, Yarrington, Williams, and Deacons Russell, French and Williams.

The Instrument of Donation was read by the Rector, and the Sentence of Consecration by the Rev. Dr. Johnson. The Bishop then proceeded with the Consecration Service. The Rev. Dr. Coit, of Bridgeport, began Morning Prayer; the Rev. Mr. Purves, of Westport, read the Lessons; and the Rev. Mr. Stimson of Wilton concluded. The Bishop then proceeded with the Communion Service; the Rev. Dr. Mead



RIGHT REV. JOHN WILLIAMS, D. D., D. C. L., FOURTH BISHOP OF CONNECTICUT.
ÆT. 40 YEARS, 1856.

of Norwalk, reading the Epistle and Gospel for the occasion. The sermon was by the Bishop. A feeling of deep solemnity seemed to pervade the entire congregation through all the Service. The music was excellent. All who could, sang, and both Clergy and laity appreciated highly this feature of the Services. The same voices that were mingled in the Confession, Versi-

cles and Creed, were also joined together in the words of Thanksgiving and Praise. It has now been nearly two years since the Church in this parish was burned to the ground. In the interval the Rector and parish have been as a parish without a home. They have sought a shelter, at one time in a school-room, then, in a barn, then, in an Odd Fellows' Lodge, then, in a public hall. Now, at last, they have found, in the language of their Bishop, a Holy Home ; such a home as I know every member of the parish must appreciate. This two years must have been a time of severe trial to the Rector, who had but just commenced his labors in this, his first parish. But he has not been found wanting in energy, assiduity, and zeal, for the welfare and honor of his parishioners. And the parish, I may say, judging from the noble edifice they have erected, have not been wanting in zeal for the honor of God, or in love for their Rector. The building is of wood, but one which will ever bear evidence of the liberality and good taste of those who have erected it.

There is nothing light or fantastic in its ornaments or decorations, neither is the religious light *too dim*. The whole effect is animating, solemn, and impressive. May the entire Services of the Consecration long be remembered by the congregation. May they, with their worthy Rector, long live together to enjoy the comforts and consolations of this, their holiest earthly Home."

This new edifice was equipped with what at the time, was considered a very fine organ. It came from the factory of Messrs. E. & G. C. Hook, of Boston, and cost \$1,200.00. In addition to the sum of \$875.00 received for insurance upon the organ destroyed by fire in the old Church, the Vestry apportioned \$200.00 from the parish treasury; and Edwin Bulkley contributed \$32.50; Lewis D. Bulkley, \$37.50; Chas. Rockwell, \$20.00; William B. Leonard, \$20.58, and Benjamin Pomeroy, \$14.42, which sums made up the deficiency. In connection with the erection of the fifth Church edifice, we



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, FAIRFIELD VILLAGE. ORGANIZED, 1856.

find on the pages of the Parish Record, this acknowledgment, showing the interest taken in it by a former townsman: "Resolved, that the thanks of this Society are eminently due, and are hereby cordially tendered to Joseph E. Sheffield, of New Haven, for his liberal and unsolicited donation of \$500.00 towards rebuilding the Church in his native village."

After the destruction of the "Old Church on the Hill," and during the somewhat long interval that elapsed before all the questions connected with the change of site, and the material, whether wood or stone, with which the new structure should be constructed, it is not to be wondered at, that the residents in the village of Fairfield, a mile distant, should long for a parish Church of their own. Although the Church-people residing there were extremely few in number, it was resolved by them that a Church should be builded. By the persevering efforts of Mr. Henry R. Knapp, a devoted upholder of the Church of his adoption, and a few zealous friends, the site on which the foundation of a proposed jail had been started, was secured, and plans for the structure having been adopted, the corner stone was laid in September, 1855, by the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese. The completed edifice was consecrated May 20th, 1856, by the same Prelate, by the name of St. Paul's Church. As was to be expected, this memorable service was participated in by a goodly number of the Clergy and laity. The Request to Consecrate was read by the Rev. Mr. Leffingwell, the rector of the parish. The Sentence of Consecration was read by the Rev. Mr. Purdy. Morning Prayer was begun by the Rev. Mr. Reid. The Lessons were read by the Rev. Mr. Dix, of New York. The Creed and the concluding Prayers were read by the Rev. Dr. G. S. Coit. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Hallam. The Assistant Bishop read the Communion Office. The Epistle was read by the Rev. Dr. Mead, who with the Rev. Mr. Purdy, assisted the Bishop in the distribution of the

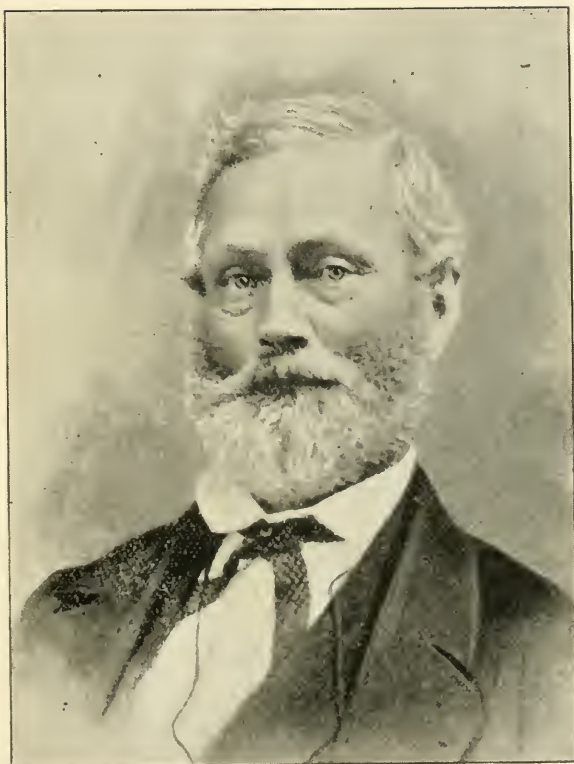
elements. There were also present, the Rev. Messrs. Baldwin, Tomlinson. Caudor, Judd, Purves, Stimson, Geo. Warner Nichols, Olmstead, Williams, Townsend, and Davies, of the Connecticut Diocese, and the Rev. Messrs. Clapp, and Samuel Nichols, of that of New York. St. Paul's parish has been ably administered, and highly prosperous from the start. As the initial services, that eventually led to its organization were begun by Mr. Cornwall, and were afterwards continued by Mr. Purdy, it hardly needs to be said, that Trinity, the old mother-parish, gave the new enterprise a hearty God speed. The Rectors have been the Rev. Messrs. C. S. Leffingwell, Levi B. Stimson, Frederick S. Hyde, James K. Lombard, and William Strother Jones. The Rev. Allen E. Beeman is the present Rector.

Mr. Purdy's ministrations at Southport, continued to be most acceptable. In 1857, by a unanimous vote of the parish, his salary was raised. Doubtless he would have remained contented in the promising field in which he was laboring, had not a call to a cure at Hyde Park, a growing village on the Hudson river, in the Diocese of New York, which was extended to him, appeared of such a nature that he felt he must accept it. Accordingly, to the surprise and regret of every one connected with the parish, his resignation was tendered, at a meeting held April 26th, 1858.

Copy of Rev. J. S. Purdy's letter, as published in the Church Calendar, May 8th, 1858.

To the Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Church, Southport:

Gentlemen:—The object of this communication, is to certify you of my resignation of this parish. My desire is that the resignation shall take effect on the third of May. In thus relinquishing my charge, I do most gladly testify to your appreciation of a Pastor's labors among you, for your own and for the Church's good. Your kindness and affection toward me from first to last, have been unvarying. For the constant good-will you have ever manifested in my behalf, and for the



JUSTUS SHERWOOD, M. D., VESTRYMAN. 1859

many favors I have received at your hands, accept my heartiest thanks. May God's choicest blessings descend upon you all, and be assured that for your continued prosperity, you will ever have my earnest prayers. Yours affectionately, in the fellowship of Christ's Holy Church,

James S. Purdy.

When first presented, on motion of Capt. Jonathan Godfrey, it was decided unanimously, that Mr. Purdy's resignation be not accepted, and that Messrs. Godfrey and Beers, be a committee to inform him of the action of the meeting. The result was, that after earnest solicitation on the part of Mr. Purdy, the vote previously taken was reconsidered and permission was given him to retire as requested, which he did on the 3rd of May. On parting, the parish showed the keen sense of its loss in a series of appreciative resolutions. Among them were these words, which show the regard in which Mr. Purdy was held. "Permit us as we part, to testify with one voice to your inestimable worth as a Christian Pastor. We have found you, during the five years you have been with us, faithful and untiring in the discharge of your duties. Through many vicissitudes; the loss of our Church edifice by fire, and the consequent stress of rebuilding, you have sustained and guided us. May the blessing of our Father in Heaven attend you, and crown with even greater success, your labors in the new field upon which you are about to enter."

Rev. Mr. Purdy was also well known by the writer of these Annals. He recollects distinctly his fine personal appearance, and his great charm of manner. In a letter very recently received, his brother-in-law, the Rev. William Allen Johnson, Professor of Church History, in the Berkley Divinity School, Middletown, Conn., says of him: "For Rev. Mr. Purdy I had a very great regard. He was a wise scholar; a very well read theologian; an able preacher; and *always* a successful pastor. He was untiring in catechising his Sunday school, and in his pastoral duties. The last Confirmation in the little village of

Hyde Park, numbered, I think, sixteen ; and the Rev. Dr. Cady, (who succeeded him) said he had never known, in his experience, such devotion on the part of the plain village people to a Pastor." Mr. Purdy died, lamented by a large circle of friends, at Saratoga, New York, March 21st, 1883.

CHAPTER XVIII.

RECTORSHIP OF THE REV. RUFUS EMERY: DESTRUCTION OF THE
FIFTH CHURCH BY A TORNADO: BUILDING OF THE SIXTH
CHURCH, 1858-1871, A. D.



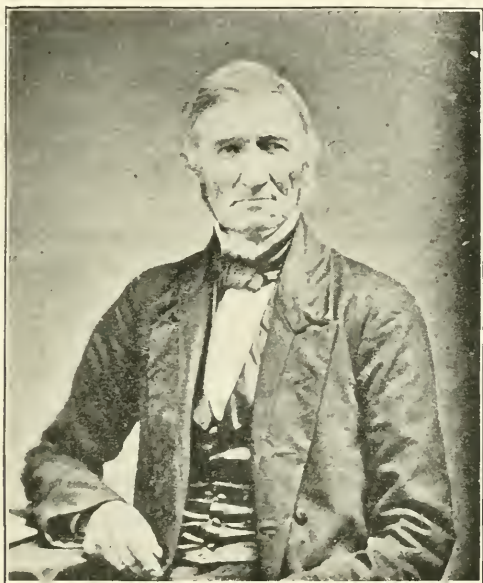
THE REV. RUFUS EMERY.

After the Rev. Mr. Purdy left for his new cure, Trinity parish was without a Rector for two months. At a meeting

held July 12th, 1858, the Rev. Rufus Emery, was given a unanimous call, and forthwith began his pastoral duties. The new Rector was a recent graduate of Berkley Divinity School, and this was his first charge. At once he won the hearts of his flock by his ardent devotion to his Master's work. Under his leadership the parish gained added strength, and a zeal manifested itself, that gave promise of greater progress than had ever before been attained. Thus the years passed, without aught sensational occurring, until January 1st, 1862. During the closing hours of that day, a cyclonic storm from the northwest began to make itself felt; the wind blew fiercely; the oldest inhabitant could remember no elemental disturbance that surpassed it in vehemence. Trees and shrubbery were stripped or uprooted; many houses and barns were unroofed; scores of vessels that had neglected to seek shelter were wrecked along the coast.* While the tempest was at its height, the tall, graceful spire of the Church, yielded to the force of the blast, and breaking off at the belfry, fell upon the roof, and crashing through into the interior, wrought utter havoc and ruin therein. Those who remember the catastrophe, relate that the bell, uninjured and exposed to the storm, rang at intervals through the dark hours, sounding, as it were, a requiem over the sad scene that the coming dawn was to reveal. The destruction of the Church proved to be complete. The east wall lay prone upon the ground; The west wall would also have fallen quite as far but for the interposition of a venerable oak, which served as a prop to hold it up. Singular to relate, the organ was unharmed, as was the altar within the chancel; and the great

* The weather on New Year's morning was very fine, with a light wind from southwest, the barometer standing 29 and 7-10; indicating a blow, which about 12 30 P. M. commenced from southwest, and during the evening shifted to west north-west, and has been blowing furiously since from that quarter. Much damage has been done to shipping in exposed situations. A tremendous gale is reported on the Sound. In Boston and its vicinity, many chimneys were blown down, and buildings unroofed. The storm is the most severe known for years. New York Times, Jan. 3rd, 1862.

window of stained glass above it; nothing else, though, escaped, and it was evident that the entire structure would have to be rebuilt. This was a heavy blow, for the parish was just recovering from the financial exhaustion consequent upon the original construction of the edifice. It rose, how-



HULL SHERWOOD, VESTRYMAN AND WARDEN, 1819—1864.

ever, to the occasion. At a meeting held, January 18th, on motion of Mr. Benjamin Pomeroy, it was unanimously voted: "That this parish proceed to rebuild the Church, substantially upon the same plan as before, and that it be built by the day, the work to begin as soon as the sum of six thousand dollars shall be raised." Rev. Mr. Emery was made chairman of the Building Committee, and the requisite amount having been subscribed, the new Church was begun, and was ready for

Consecration before the close of the year. The same clergyman, the Rev. David H. Short, who was present at the Consecration four years previously, was also a participant in this, and has left us an account so full and graphic, that it is given at length: "It may be remembered that the first day of the year 1862 closed in a tremendous tornado. During that night, Trinity Church, Southport, was laid in ruins, and a more complete wreck can scarcely be imagined. The tall spire fell lengthwise of the nave, crushing the roof, bursting out both sides of the building, and breaking over the chancel, about twenty feet of the top was thrown some fifty feet beyond and plunged through the roof of the horse-sheds. But no description can adequately portray the scene of desolation, and much less can it express the anguish of heart felt by the band of zealous Churchmen belonging to the parish. Only a few years before, they had been deprived of their Church by fire, and now another element had made scarcely less devastation. But it is not to describe the wreck that I write. It is to endeavor to give some faint idea of an entirely different and more joyous scene.

"By the united zeal, energy and liberality of the people of the ancient, but oft-tried parish, another and more beautiful Temple has arisen on the foundation of the former Church; and Thursday, the 11th of December, was the day appointed for its Consecration to the worship of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. The day, as if Divine Providence did smile upon the pious undertaking, was almost cloudless, and bland beyond compare for wintry days. The morning sun rose bright and clear, and many a heart rejoiced that once again devout Christian people could assemble to worship God, could kneel to offer up their heart's devotions, could listen to the words of eternal life, the preached Gospel, and could receive the bread of God free from distraction of mind, in a place separated from all common, secular and unhallowed uses. At the hour appointed, 11 o'clock, the Church was filled, and the

Assistant Bishop, preceded by the Wardens and Vestrymen of the parish, and accompanied by a large number of the Clergy, robed in surplices, formed in procession at the residence of Jonathan Godfrey, Esq., and marched to the Church. On entering, the Bishop commenced the recitation of the appropriate Psalm, which caused many a heart to thrill with joyful



ANDREW BULKLEY, VESTRYMAN, 1859-1867.

emotion, and the response of the Clergy was full and sonorous, making the lofty arch resound. Seated in the chancel, the Bishop on the right of the altar, was supported by the Rev. S. R. Johnson, S. T. D., of the General Theological Seminary, New York, the Rector of the parish, the Rev. Messrs. Tom-

linson and Cooke, and on the left by the Rev. Drs. Mead and J. L. Clark, and the Rev. Messrs. Short, S. M. Emery, and French. The Instrument of Donation was read by the Rector, after which the Bishop proceeded with the Service of Consecration; the Sentence of Consecration was read by the Rev. S. M. Emery. This service concluded, Morning Prayer was said by the Rev. Mr. Stimson, to the end of the appropriate Psalms; the Rev. Mr. Willey read the Lessons; the Rev. Mr. Deshon concluded Morning Prayer. The Ante-Communion was begun by the Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Mead reading the Epistle, and the Rev. Dr. Johnson the Gospel. The sermon was by the Bishop, in his usual clear and forcible style. After sermon the Offertory was read by the Rev. Dr. Johnson; the Rev. Dr. Clark officiated in the Communion to the Absolution, which was pronounced by the Bishop, who then proceeded with the Consecration and distribution of the sacred elements, being assisted in the latter by the Rev. Drs. Mead, Johnson and Clark. The Rev. Mr. Short said the Post-Communion, to the Gloria in Excelsis, which was chanted by the choir and the congregation, accompanied by the full-toned organ. Here it is proper to remark that all the music was judiciously selected, and executed in excellent style and good taste. Instead of selecting music which would exhibit wonderful powers of execution rather than devotion in the worship of God, the chants were plain, only varied by the Grand Te Deum of Jackson: the metre tunes, as they ought always to be, on such occasions, were familiar, and well adapted to the worship of God by the whole congregation, and the great body of worshippers manifested their appreciation by joining with hearty voice, making the lofty arch resound with a full chorus. The Bishop concluded the services, pronouncing the Benediction. Thus closed one of the most interesting services of the kind which I remember to have attended. Besides the Clergy already mentioned, there were present, the Rev. W. H. Williams,

Chaplain of the army, the Rev. Messrs. J. R. Williams, G. D. Johnson, J. Godfrey, and the Rev. Messrs. E. F. Bishop, Benjamin, and Brathwaite, deacons.

“I have spun out this communication to so great length, that little room is left for a description of the Church, or for the mention of some other matters of interest in relation to



WILLIAM BULKLEY, VESTRYMAN, 1855-1867.

the parish, and indeed, it would be hardly possible to give an adequate conception of its beauty by a verbal description. Suffice it to say, that considering the cost, about \$7,000, and the circumstances of its erection upon the foundation, and of the same dimensions of the old one, it is a decided success,

and a great improvement upon the former. It shows not only the high order of ecclesiastical taste of the Rector, who designed and drew all the plans, but also the confidence of the people in their Rector, and their zeal and liberality in carrying out his plans. May the Great Head of the Church long spare him to enjoy the fruit of his labors, and grant that he may be equally successful in building up the spiritual temple of the Lord in due and harmonious proportion, and that many souls may be enabled to say, 'we were born to glory here.' "

The Report of the Building Committee, submitted to the parish, December 29th, 1862, was as follows: "The Building Committee would report to the parish, that in obedience to the resolution passed at the meeting of January 18th, last, they began their work on Monday, the 20th of January. The first thing which was done, was to find timber fitted for the new building. The timbers of the spire, and roof, being long and large, it required much time to find such as were in all respects suitable. After they were found, they were prepared and put upon the ground. The ruins of the former Church were then cleared up, and an examination made of the foundation, the floor, and the remaining portion of the tower. After this examination was made, and opinions were received from those who were competent to give them, your committee came to the conclusion that the foundation, the floor, and remaining portion of the tower, were in all respects sufficient to build upon again. In order, however, to make the matter doubly sure, your committee determined to strengthen the tower part by putting in two additional timbers, reaching from the foundation of the tower to the bell deck, and having connection with the rafters. After an examination of Churches and spires recently built, your committee concluded that the roof should be made steeper by five feet, and be framed and supported on an entirely different principle; further, that the spire should be framed and covered in a different way from

the former one. As the building now stands, the roof and all its weight, is independent of the sides of the Church. The only weight that now rests upon the floor, is that of the seats, and the congregation when it occupies them. It was also determined to carry out the corners of the Church, so as to make it square, and have the whole building under one roof. Your committee have had before them from the beginning to the end of this work, the idea of strength, both in materials used, and mode in which they were put together; and they believe that the plan on which the present Church is built, is not only the stronger, but is at the same time, one which is the most proper and fit for the Temple of God. The work has been done in a workmanlike manner. There has been no part to which your committee took exception, or had any objection to make. In offering this Church for the acceptance of the parish, your committee feel confident that they are presenting a building, which is in all respects, sound, substantial, and strong. Your committee would take this opportunity to thank those members of the parish, who brought timber from the woods to the Church site; to those who assisted in clearing away the ruins; and to all, who during the progress of the work, have assisted them in any way." This report was unanimously accepted, and the thanks of the parish, for the generous and devoted services of the committee, were ordered to be entered upon the minutes. The strain attendant upon the erection of the new Church edifice, being happily over, the parish settled down once more to its accustomed routine of worship and work.

Trinity Church, on March 11th, 1864, sustained a great loss, by the death of Mr. Hull Sherwood, who had served it as vestryman and warden, and as delegate to the Diocesan Convention, without intermission, for forty-five years. Mr. Sherwood was a Churchman from conviction. Early in life he became thoroughly informed concerning the worship and doctrine and polity of the Church, and it was his constant delight to join in the one, and to

uphold and defend the others. On December 28th, 1866, the Hon. Benjamin Pomeroy, for many years a generous benefactor and valued vestryman, died while on a visit to the Island of Santa Cruz, whither he had gone for the improvement of his health. On March 18th, of the following year, Mr. Andrew



MOSES BULKLEY. VESTRYMAN, 1847-1868.

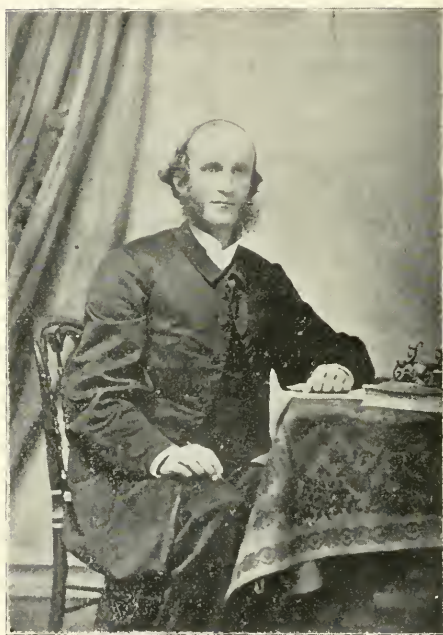
Bulkley, another vestryman, whose interest in the welfare of the parish never flagged, was called to his eternal home. On May 11th, 1868, Mr. William Bulkley, also a vestryman, was removed by death. On November 16th, following, Mr. Moses Bulkley, beloved by the entire community, likewise a vestry-

man and a staunch supporter of the parish, was summoned from this earthly scene. These men were a great loss; indeed, the passing away of such veritable pillars of Trinity Church marked the beginning of the decimation which, in the course of a few more years, was to completely transform it.

The Rev. Mr. Emery, having completed a most successful Rectorship of twelve years, startled, as well as grieved the parish on the 1st of May, 1870, by tendering his resignation. The proposition was entirely of his own volition. The congregation was greatly attached to him; his ministrations were perfectly satisfactory; the only reason given was a call to another field of labor, wherein he felt he could do a larger work. On May 9th, a special meeting was called, at which the parish voted unanimously to refuse consent to the Rector's resignation. On July 9th, having learned that the severance of the pastoral relation was still desired by Mr. Emery, the parish met, and reluctantly granted permission for him to retire. A series of eulogistic resolutions, testifying to the high degree of esteem in which he was held, "not only by his own parishioners, but by the whole community," were also passed. From Southport, Mr. Emery went to Calvary Church, Stonington, Conn., where he remained until 1872; in that year, he became Rector of St. Paul's Church, Newburgh, where he officiates, beloved and honored, at the present time.

CHAPTER XIX.

RECTORSHIP OF THE REV. EDWARD LIVINGSTON WELLS—ERECTION
OF THE CHAPEL 1870-1876, A. D.



REV. EDWARD L. WELLS.

At a special meeting of the parish, held August 23rd, 1870, the Rev. Edward L. Wells, was called to the vacant Rectorship, by the unanimous vote of the forty-six voters who were present.

He entered upon his duties, Sunday, September 15th. Mr. Wells came from St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield, Mass., where his ministry had been characterized by great spiritual and financial success. Endowed with a strong magnetic personality; with oratorical powers of exceptional brilliancy; with an intense enthusiasm for his Master's work, he began at once to quicken Trinity Church into a new and larger life. Congregations



THE CHAPEL, AND THE PARISH SCHOOL, 1874.

remarkable for their size, came to listen to his preaching; contributions were made to religious and charitable objects, both within and without the parish, on a scale hitherto unknown in its history. Those familiar with the past of Trinity Church, are wont to say that Mr. Wells' Rectorship occurred at a period when it was, from a financial point of view, at the zenith of its existence. Death, even then,

had begun its inroads, but still, "there were giants, in those days," that is, men of mark, possessed of indomitable will, of great executive ability, who by dint of their irrepressible energy and wise foresight, had accumulated large fortunes. Their ships had sailed, without mishap, to foreign ports, and had brought back rich argosies. Their home investments had turned out to be exceedingly profitable. And there was a goodly number of these successful men. Whoever looked into the parish Church, at service time on Sunday, would see the pews all occupied, and at the head, occupying the seat of honor, a middle aged, or elderly parishioner, whose very appearance indicated that, at least, temporal prosperity had resulted from his struggle with the world. No wonder, then, that the offerings of the congregation, under such circumstances, were large! The men who had ample wealth, and who were, all of them, devoted to the Church and its interests, were not lacking! This is quite true; but something also must be allowed for the marvellous power exerted upon them by him, who was their spiritual leader. Under his wholesome influence—the figures prove it—pocket-books that had been shut tightly, opened as freely as do the closed leaves of the flower, in response to the warm rays of the morning sun. Certainly, the offerings of Trinity Church, during Mr. Wells' Rectorship, compared with the eras preceding, and those succeeding it, were something phenomenal.

The Easter offerings for 1871 and 1872 were \$625.51, and \$697.00, respectively. In 1873, the missions of the Diocese received \$4,854.00; Foreign and Domestic missions, \$1,656.71. In 1874, contributions for Diocesan missions, were \$2,068.00; Foreign and Domestic missions, \$1,553.30. The Berkley Divinity School was gladdened with a gift of \$2,000.00. Such large sums have never been given since.

For his wisdom, as well as zeal, in another direction, Mr. Wells deserves the highest commendation. He was an ardent believer in the usefulness of Parish Schools. His theory, and



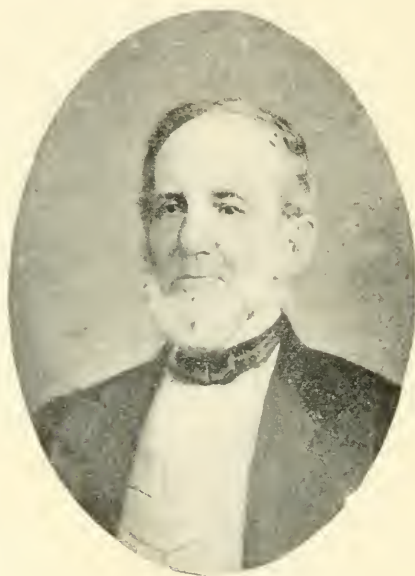
FRANCIS D. PERRY, VESTRYMAN, 1885.

experience has proven over and over again that it is the only right one, was that secular should go hand in hand with religious training. Although important, reading, writing and arithmetic, are not the all in all of life. Our children need to be taught to fear God and keep His commandments also. In 1872, consent was given by the parish, for the erection of a building close by the Church, on the Church property, which "should be devoted to a Parish School, and for such other purposes as may be necessary."

Mr. Wells easily raised \$5,000.00 for this admirable object, and the Chapel, as it is now known, was soon built and paid for. At one period, about thirty young people of both sexes, were under daily instruction within its walls. Mr. Nathan Belden, Mrs. Hattie Bulkley, and the Rev. Isaac C. Sturgis were most satisfactory teachers, and contributed largely to the success of the school.

During Mr. Wells' Rectorship, the losses sustained by death were numerous, and were deeply felt by the whole parish. Prominent among those taken away were Miss Mary Bradley, of Greenfield Hill, October 22nd, 1870, and her sister Griselda, September 21st, 1871: these two, the one, eighty-four, and the other, eighty-eight years of age, had been connected with Trinity parish from their childhood. "Faithful found among the faithless many," they journeyed from Greenfield Hill to the House of God, to join in its worship, every Lord's Day, whether the weather was propitious, or whether it was not. *O si sic omnes!* Others deceased were, Mr. Lot Bulkley, November 4th, 1874; Capt. Charles Bulkley, October 3rd, 1875; and Mr. Benjamin Pomeroy, 2nd, December 15th, the same year. In 1876, Mr. Wells received a call to St. John's Church, New Milford, Conn. At a meeting of the parish held November 8th, 1876, after duly considering the Rector's request for a dissolution of the pastoral relation, and understanding from him that it would be insisted upon, it was voted: "That we accept the Rector's resignation, at his

earnest solicitation, and tender him our prayers and sympathies, in whatever sphere his future efforts may be employed." Mr. Wells' Rectorship thus brought to a close, in results achieved, is one of the most remarkable in the long history of Trinity parish. In the six years that he presided over its affairs he was instrumental in not only building the Chapel, but also in raising, exclusive of the amounts requisite for the Rector's salary, and other necessary Church expenses, for



CHARLES BULKLEY, VESTRYMAN, 1847-1875.

outside purposes, \$37.025.19: for home purposes, \$12,143.12, total \$49,168.31. Add to this, the cost of the Chapel building, \$5,000.00, and the grand total is \$54,168.31. To this day his memory is fondly treasured by large numbers of his former flock. He served with continued success as Rector of St. John's Church, New Milford, Conn., until August 7th, 1881,



RIGHT REV. CHAUNCEY B. BREWSTER, D. D.,
BISHOP COADJUTOR.

when he "fell on sleep," and entered into the Paradise of God. It is a pleasure to record that his son and namesake, was admitted to Holy Orders, in the same Church and at the same altar, in Southport, where his father so successfully ministered for nearly seven years, on Sunday, the 30th of January, 1898, by the Right Rev. Chauncey B. Brewster, D. D., the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese. This is the second instance of the kind in the history of the parish. The Rev. William Shelton, it will be remembered, was ordained by Bishop Brownell, after the Rev. Philo Shelton's death, in the Church at Mill Plain.

CHAPTER XX.

RECTORSHIP OF THE REV. TALIAFERRO P. CASKEY, 1877-1879, A. D.



THE REV. TALIAFERRO P. CASKEY.

FROM THE CHURCHMAN.

Shortly after Mr. Wells' departure to New Milford, the Rev. Taliaferro P. Caskey, officiated in Trinity Church, and at a special meeting of the parish, held August 6th, 1877, it was voted, "that he be tendered a unanimous call to the Rectorship." One feature of the proceedings was, at least, unique. It was further voted, "that the salary of the Rector be twelve hundred dollars a year, until such time as the cordial relations of the members be manifested by their usual sub-

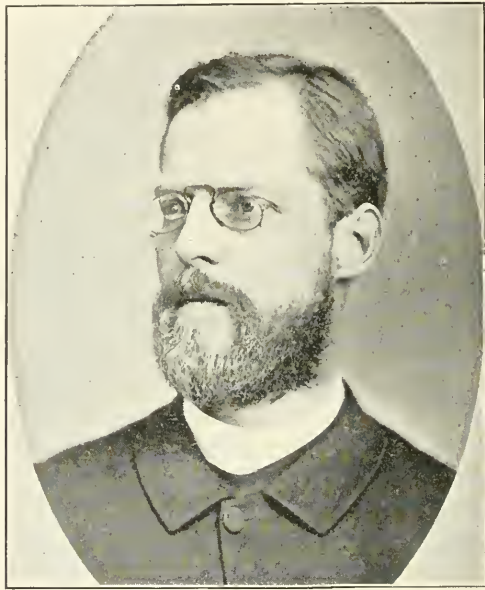


MR. FRANCIS JELLIFF.
VENTRYMAN AND WARDEN, 1854-1896.

scriptions : then the sum of fifteen hundred dollars should be recognized as the salary of the Rector." Mr. Caskey soon established "cordial relations" all around, for at the next annual parish meeting, his salary was raised to the contemplated sum of fifteen hundred dollars per year. In 1878, a class of twenty-six was confirmed : and the contributions for Diocesan and Domestic missions amounted to \$2,072.56. On December 4th, Justus Sherwood, M. D., the village physician, who had served the parish as vestryman for many years, died, aged seventy-three years. The resolutions inscribed in the Parish Record, speak of him as "one whose unobtrusive excellence of character was generally acknowledged ; who labored faithfully in his profession : and whose kindness of heart and cheerfulness of disposition, indicated the true Christian." In the spring of 1879, Mr. Caskey took unto himself a fair helpmeet from among the maidens of his flock, Miss Phœbe Lacy, and went on a bridal tour to Europe. His absence from the parish was expected to be of brief duration, but, the rectorship of St. John's Church, at Dresden, Saxony, being vacant at that time, he was induced to resign his American charge. After a brief visit to the home-land, in the fall of the same year, he settled down indefinitely in a foreign clime. All who are conversant with the progress, for many years past, of the American Church abroad, know that the great work done by Mr. Caskey, in the Saxon capital, is no small feature of it. When the writer had temporary charge of the American congregation in Dresden, during August and September, 1876, it met for worship on Sunday mornings only, in a hall, which during the week was utilized by the bankers and brokers, for their sales and exchanges. Now, St. John's Church, Parish House, and Rectory, all of stone, and of exquisite architecture, built through Mr. Caskey's exertions, and under his immediate supervision, testify to his rare abilities, and unconquerable zeal. At the present time, Mr. Caskey is still the beloved Rector of the parish at Dresden.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE RECTORSHIP OF THE REV CHARLES G. ADAMS, 1879 1890, A. D.



THE REV. CHARLES G. ADAMS.

When the Rev. Mr. Caskey went abroad, in the spring of 1879, he engaged as his "*locum tenens*," the Rev. Charles G. Adams. The substitute thus provided, proved so thoroughly acceptable that, when later on, the Rector determined to resign his charge, and remain in Dresden, the congregation, with one accord, decided to make his stay among them perma-

nent. At a special parish meeting, held the 17th of November, 1879, Mr. Adams was unanimously called to the Rectorship of Trinity Church. During the period that he held it, death wrought great changes in the parish. Mr. Allen Nichols, for many years vestryman and treasurer, died May 22nd, 1879. Capt. Jonathan Godfrey, who for fifty years was vestryman, senior and junior warden, benefactor, and main-stay of the parish, succumbed August 3rd, 1882, to a creeping paralysis, the result of a fall from his carriage, caused by a runaway, the year previous. This devoted, unselfish, generous friend of Trinity parish, first appears on the Parish Record in 1831, when he was elected a vestryman. From that time onwards, in season and out of season, the welfare, the advancement of the parish were the objects to which he consecrated his life. The present Rector laments profoundly, that his coming to Trinity Church, was not in the time of Capt. Jonathan Godfrey. He knows it would have cheered his heart to have worked hand in hand with one so thoroughly in earnest in all good works. Another irreparable loss was Mr. Francis D. Perry, who died November 16th, 1884. Of all those who have proved generous contributors to Trinity parish, this fine type of a Christian gentlemen, *sans peur et sans reproche*, and his estimable wife, who was removed from among us at a later date, stand foremost. Henry Sturges, who served many years as vestryman, the grandson of Rev. Philo Shelton, ever zealous in behalf of the Church of his affections, always generous in his gifts to promote its welfare, passed away, January 4th, 1885. Augustus Jennings, for forty-two years, at different times, vestryman, clerk, superintendent of the Sunday School, and delegate to the Diocesan Convention, one most prominent in the councils of the parish, and its earnest supporter, deceased, June 10th, 1886. On December 28th, 1888, another valued parishioner, David Banks, entered into rest. He was vestryman, 1836-44; junior warden, 1844-64; senior warden, 1864-88, making altogether, an unbroken

service of 52 years, and thus constituting a record with few parallels. On September 8th, 1890, Charles Rockwell, also one of the vestry, urbane, large-hearted, beloved throughout the County of Fairfield, and even beyond its borders, in the comfort of a religious, holy Hope, passed from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant. These were all repre-



JONATHAN GODFREY.

VESTRYMAN AND WARDEN, 1831-1882.

sentative men, and their loss would have been felt deeply in any congregation in the land. How much more, then, in this small community, where increase from persons moving in, and making it their permanent home, is a matter of the rarest occurrence. The marvel is, that having undergone such a thorough depletion of its strongest supporters, Trinity Church still continues in as vigorous condition as it is!

One important step in advance, amounting almost to a revolution, so far as old-time methods were concerned, marked Mr. Adams' Rectorship. From the year the parish was organized, the custom of renting the pews and sittings annually to the highest bidders, prevailed. The incongruity, not to say sacrilege, involved in turning the House of God, even once a year, into a mart, where the quirks of the auctioneer were heard, did not seem to occur to those who sanctioned the practice. No doubt, many assented to it thoughtlessly, for the reason that all the New England Churches were wedded to the same custom. At length, a more sensible view began to be taken. If the spiritual comfort derived from the ministrations of the Sanctuary is worth anything, it is worth contracting and paying for in a quiet, business-like way. At the annual parish meeting, held April 6th, 1885, Mr. Francis Jelliff made the following timely remarks: "Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: The plan of selling the seats at auction, in a Church consecrated to the worship of Almighty God, as has been practiced by us, seems to be irreverent and wicked; and some better means of disposing of them should be adopted at once. I therefore offer the following resolution: Resolved, that a committee of four members of the Vestry be appointed to devise and adopt a plan that will do away with the annual auctioneering; and that when such plan shall be agreed upon, they shall put it in printed form; and that they shall, as soon as it is advisable, submit it to every pew-holder, for his, or her adoption; and if such plan shall seem to give general satisfaction, it shall go into effect at the next annual meeting, and continue so until rescinded." This resolution was passed unanimously, and the assent of the congregation to the plan submitted by the committee, being quite general, it went into effect at the time indicated, and no one, it is safe to say, would now go back to the old way.

One of Mr. Adams' successful achievements, was the establishment of a monthly paper, entitled, the "Church

Record." It was the first attempt in this country, to put forth a publication which should serve as a medium of communication between the different Rectors and their parishes. All of the New England Dioceses, with the exception of Massachusetts, promptly made it their official organ. At one



DAVID BANKS.

VESTRYMAN AND WARDEN, 1836-1888.

time its circulation ran into the tens of thousands. It was his devotion to this important work, that ultimately led Mr. Adams to resign the Rectorship of the parish. He found that when an "avocation," becomes a "vocation," it makes such demands on one's time and energies, that other interests, if there be any, invariably have to suffer.

After a Rectorship of eleven years, in the course of which he endeared himself by his eminent abilities to great numbers of his parishioners, and as well, to the community at large, Mr. Adams retired May 5th, 1890, and sometime later accepted the charge of St. Mark's Memorial Chapel, New York City. After serving acceptably in that charge for some years, he went west, and is at the present time, Rector of St. Phillip's Church, Cincinnati, Ohio.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE RECTORSHIP OF THE REV. EDMUND GUILBERT, 1891—



THE REV. EDMUND GUILBERT.

The resignation of the Rev. Charles G. Adams was accepted in the fall of 1890, and early in 1891, the Rev. Edmund Guilbert, who had been for the past twelve years, Rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit, New York City, was unanimously called to fill the vacant Rectorship. The new Rector,

the thirteenth in succession from the first incumbent, the Rev. Henry Caner, who filled the position from 1727 to 1747, A. D., brought with him to his rural charge, a large experience gained in an important city parish, and straightway gained the confidence and affection of his congregation. Whatever slight differences may have existed, were speedily forgotten; and a united people hastened to show that the welfare of the parish, was the object that lay nearest their hearts. The first indication of the zeal that was awakened, was a desire, both spontaneous and general, to have the interior of the Church edifice rehabilitated. Since its consecration in 1862, no effort had been made to repair the ravages of time, and as was to be expected, the Church within, looked decidedly the worse for wear. A committee on interior decoration was appointed, the sum of \$3,000.00 raised, and the Church was beautified to a degree that surprised and delighted every beholder. A number of memorial gifts, including a new chancel carpet, and railing, a credence-table, candelabra, altar vases, and embroidered altar-cloths for the different Church seasons, oaken sedilia, prayer desks, also added materially in imparting a more devotional, as well as asthetical aspect to the Sanctuary.

Ever since the sale of the former Rectory to the New York and New Haven Railroad Company, the Rector of the parish had been without a settled home. It was felt by many of the congregation, that the time had come to provide once more for this imperative need. With this purpose in view, a parish meeting was held October 6th, 1891, at which the Vestry was formally authorized to purchase a suitable lot, and erect thereon a comfortable parsonage. This structure was completed, and occupied, August 1st, 1892, and in it the Rector and his family, were delightfully housed for the space of one year when an event occurred which compelled them although with reluctance, to make another change. On the 23rd of April, 1893, Mrs. Francis D. Perry, a beloved member of the parish, the relict of Mr. Francis D. Perry, whose demise is noted in

the preceding chapter, was summoned to her eternal rest ; and it was subsequently discovered that her commodious homestead and grounds, situate on Pequot Avenue, almost directly opposite the parish Church, had been left to the Rector of Trinity, and his successors in office "for a residence, and for no other use or purpose, forever." This munificent gift, the culmination of a devotion to the welfare of the parish that during its existence has never been surpassed, is now occupied



TRINITY CHURCH CHANCEL, 1898.

(SHOWING THE ROCKWELL MEMORIAL CANDELABRA.)

by the present incumbent, and places him, so far as a delightful residence can do so, in a position that leaves nothing to be desired. Trinity parish thus owns, in this year of grace, 1898, its fourth Rectory. The first was in Fairfield village, and was destroyed by fire in 1779. The second, and third, located in Southport, have been transferred to other owners. The fourth, "the Perry Rectory," let us hope, will



TRINITY CHURCH, EASTER, 1890.

stand, proof against fire and flood, and the onslaughts of time, and be the shelter, not only of the Rector of to day, as long as he shall preside over the parish, but of those who shall follow him for generations to come.

The sale of the second Rectory was followed by a result that is worthy of chronicling. A satisfactory sum having been offered for the property, the Vestry unanimously voted to accept it. After the purchase had been consummated, at the request of the Rector, fifteen hundred dollars of the proceeds were appropriated for the purchase of a new organ for the parish Church, conditional upon the same amount being raised by subscription. As the want of a larger, and more modern instrument, had long been felt by all the parishioners, the necessary sum was soon pledged, and on the 1st of July, 1894, the Dedication of what has proved to be an exceptionally helpful and acceptable adjunct to Divine worship took place. For the present, the organ is located in the gallery, at the west end of the Church; but plans for a chancel extension have been drawn, and the Rector hopes to live to see the day, when the organ, put in its proper place, shall, in unison with a vested choir of men and boys, do its part in a rich and stately rendering of the praises of Almighty God.

As has been stated, many years before the present Rector came to Southport, death had begun to make frequent and serious inroads upon the strength of the parish. And since his Rectorship began, there has been no abatement in this respect. In the brief space of seven years, he has officiated at the burial of no less than thirty-five adult members of his flock. Edward Hawkins, junior-warden of the parish, and one of its most faithful upholders, died December 4th, 1891. Mr. Francis Jelliff, who was taken from us after a sudden illness, July 23rd, 1896, served as vestryman from 1854 to 1882, and senior-warden, from 1882, to the time of his death. He was also parish treasurer, 1879 to 1893. The parish during this decade, also suffers, in addition to the loss of Mrs.

Francis D. Perry, that of other devoted women, whose efforts in its behalf, were untiring. Among them are Mrs. John H. Sherwood, Mrs. Lewis A. Curtis, Mrs. Zalmon P. Wakeman, Mrs. Mary J. Gallagher, and Miss Elizabeth D. Banks.

The "Crossing of the River" of one whose name has, so far, not been mentioned, has resulted in the gift to the Church of a beautiful memorial Font, executed in Dresden,



THE SECOND SOUTHPORT PARSONAGE

Saxony, and modelled after the famous original of the Swedish sculptor, Thorwalsden. The beautiful life itself, which it commemorates, needs no visible reminder to perpetuate its power and memory. That has left its abiding record upon the hearts of all who came within its influence. None the less, the memorial erected, will serve through many coming years, to point the lesson of faithfulness, by recalling one who, though fond of life, yet when she was called upon to relinquish it, willingly laid all its longings and hopes at the foot of the Cross, and entered into the joy of her Lord.



THE ROCKWELL MEMORIAL FONT.

The inscription on the Rockwell Memorial Font is:

IN MEMORIAM.

ANNA ROBINSON ROCKWELL,

Born November 12th, 1849—Died February 13th, 1893.

“And the Angel said: I am alive forevermore.”

To all these noble women, whose departure from among us, Trinity parish constantly laments, and whose efforts, ever exerted in its behalf, are to-day so greatly missed as well as needed, the poet's words are most applicable:

“Besides,—what grieved us most—we knew
They had no need of such as you
In the place where you were going.
On earth are angels all too few,
While Heaven is overflowing.”

“The ANNALS OF AN OLD PARISH” are here brought to a close. The great and good work done in the past, surely is an incentive to those upon whom Elijah's mantle has fallen, to so labor that the perpetuity and the efficiency of Trinity Church shall be assured for all time to come. It is true that its membership is constantly growing smaller. As those who are conversant with the situation well know, death, and removals from the village, are active factors in producing this result. But the writer believes the time is not far off, when this shrinkage will come to an end. Southport, and its outlying parts, are too admirably situated, not to advance, rather than retrograde, in the future. Some day, there will be an inflow of population that will change entirely the present aspect of things. In the interval, while waiting for the

improvement that is sure to come, those upon whom the prosperity of Trinity Church now depends, must acquire a spirit of consecration, that will hesitate at no sacrifice in its behalf. A *few* possessed of unity, purpose, zeal, courage, can accomplish far more than a *multitude* that is aimless and indifferent.

One, out of his own experience, has written a lesson concerning this:

“A craven hung along the battle’s edge,
And thought, ‘Had I a sword of keener steel,—
That blue blade that the king’s son bears,—but this
Blunt thing!’ he snapt and flung it from his hand,
And, lowering, crept away and left the field.
Then came the king’s son, wounded, sore bestead,
And weaponless, and saw the broken sword,
Hilt-buried in the dry and trodden sand,
And ran and snatched it, and, with battle-shout
Lifted afresh, he hewed his enemy down,
And saved a great cause that heroic day.”

Even if the prospect were so desperate as that, the writer would still hope and believe that the spirit of heroism would inspire the members of Trinity parish to do their whole duty. But the matter wears another aspect. They are called to lead no forlorn hope, to commit themselves to no such doubtful enterprise. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is not a sentimental theory. It is based on human need. It alone meets the universal desire for pardon of sin, and acceptance with God. And the Church that faithfully preaches this Gospel can never fail. The Divine promise is, “the Gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.” Only let them rise to the level of the nobility of the grand principles which they profess, and failure cannot ensue. Theirs, they claim, and believe is the Church of the Living God. *Noblesse Oblige!* Let them prove to those about them its superiority by asking them frankly, not boastingly, but simply, to judge them by their fruits. However grand the idea may be, though

we may have all the motive forces of the world, if they do not actually result in a changed, renewed life, then we are proving ourselves infidel to our faith, and are preaching a word which the world will not hear, and a word which the world ought not to hear. If a man wants to build a new mill, he does not put in new machinery that simply looks well. He asks, Does it *work* well? Have you tried it? Until they see the actual result of the thing, that it is really better than what they have, men do not give up the old. Trinity Church must produce the highest types of Christian men and women, eminent for piety, for justice, for charity, for sympathy, if it hopes to continue to the end: for it is the fittest forever that survives. Unless a Church makes itself the fittest, it not only must, but it ought to go down.

The future of Trinity Church rests, then, the writer believes, even in the light of the Divine promise concerning the perpetuity of the Church as a whole, largely upon the members themselves. To be certain that its doors shall be open to welcome the weary and heavy-laden for a far longer period in the time to come, than they have been in the past, its members are simply asked to rise to the grandeur of the Gospel their Church preaches; to become, in deed, not merely in name, veritable disciples of Jesus Christ, and then to open their hearts, their minds, the treasures that they possess,—not merely of money, that is least of all,—for the benefit of the community that they love so well.

If they do that, there can be no uncertainty about the welfare of Trinity Church, so far as the present or future is concerned.

CITIZENS AND CHRISTIANS, CHURCHMEN AND NON-CHURCHMEN, one and all, of this old Town of Fairfield! Because this Trinity Church, which has flourished among you since 1725, A. D., is a Scriptural Church and not revolutionary; because its Book of Common Prayer is rich and venerable above all, save One, in the English tongue; because its Ritual promotes

decency, dignity, piety, reverence, and permanence; because its Historic Union through the Apostles comforts so many souls; because the Gospel preached in its pulpit is the old unchanged Glad-Tidings that Christ Himself proclaimed; because it has for six generations spiritually begotten and trained the best types of Christian manhood and womanhood among you:—Therefore, from its own Psalter, let us take the words wherewith to bless it:—

“They shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions’ sakes, I will wish thee prosperity. Yea, because of the House of the Lord our God, I will seek to do thee Good.”

THE END.



THE FRANCIS D. PERRY RECTORY.

APPENDICES.

APPENDICES.

What an attic-room is to the thrifty housewife, an Appendix is to the maker of a book. Some things that do not seem to be in place in the parlor, or sitting-room, are yet useful, and altogether too good to be thrown away, so they are put into the garret, where they will be accessible at all times, and ready for any unexpected use that may be made of them. In a book there are matters that the writer thinks ought to interest many of his readers; things that will be greatly missed if they are not found somewhere between the covers of the volume; and yet the place, or need, is wanting to incorporate these odd pieces in the orderly chapters of the book. This is the writer's only reason for giving in this place, several long lists, and some interesting historical documents.

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- A. Bishops of the Diocese of Connecticut.
- B. Clergymen who officiated in Fairfield before 1727.
- C. Rectors of Trinity Parish.
- D. Church-Wardens and Vestrymen of Trinity Parish.
- E. Baptisms recorded previous to 1779.
- F. Curious facts in the Life of Dr. James Laborie.
- G. Statement concerning Trinity Parish, written in the Parish Record, by the Rev. Nathaniel E. Cornwall, September 5th, 1851.
- H. Sketch of the Church at Fairfield, by the Rev. Philo Shelton, written in the year 1804.
- I. Private Parochial Register of the Rev. Philo Shelton.
(Containing over 4,000 names of persons Baptized, Confirmed, Admitted to the Communion, Married, and Buried, during the Rev. Philo Shelton's Rectorship.)
- J. Obituary Notices of the Rev. Philo Shelton, and Lucy Shelton, his wife, by the Rev. Dr. Jarvis, 1827.
- K. The Bible and Prayer Book Society of Trinity Parish.

APPENDIX A.

BISHOPS OF THE DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT.

1. The Right Rev. William Seabury, D. D., Nov. 14th, 1784, to Feb. 25th, 1796.
2. The Right Rev. Abraham Jarvis, D. D., Oct. 18th, 1797, to May 13th, 1815.
3. The Right Rev. John Henry Hobart, D. D., June 1st, 1816, to June 1st, 1819.
(In charge during vacancy in the Episcopate.)
4. The Right Rev. Thomas C. Brownell, D. D., Oct. 27th, 1819, to Jan. 13th, 1865.
5. The Right Rev. John Williams, D. D., D. C. L., Oct. 29th, 1851—.
6. The Right Rev. Chauncey B. Brewster, D. D., Oct. 28th, 1897—.

(Bishop Coadjutor.)

APPENDIX B.

CLERGYMEN WHO OFFICIATED IN, BUT WERE NOT LOCATED IN THE
TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, PREVIOUS TO THE ORGANIZATION OF
TRINITY PARISH.

1. The Rev. George Muirson, 1707.
2. The Rev. Evan Evans, 1707.
3. The Rev. John Talbot, 1709.
4. The Rev. Mr. Sharpe, 1710.
5. The Rev. Mr. Bridge, 1712.
6. The Rev. George Pigot, 1722-3.
7. The Rev. Samuel Johnson, 1723-7.

The first House of Worship, erected by Trinity parish, on Mill Plain, was Dedicated to the service of Almighty God, by Rev. Mr. Johnson, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 10th, 1825. Dr. Johnson, at the time, was Rector of Christ Church, Stratford. Trinity parish as an organization, dates from 1724.

APPENDIX C.

RECTORS OF TRINITY PARISH.

1. Rev. Henry Caner, 1727-47.
2. Rev. Joseph Lamson, 1747-74.
3. Rev. John Sayre, 1774-79.
4. Rev. Philo Shelton, 1785-1825.
5. Rev. William Shelton, 1825-29.
6. Rev. Charles Smith, 1829-34.
7. Rev. Nathaniel E. Cornwall, 1834-53.
8. Rev. James E. Purdy, 1853-58.
9. Rev. Rufus Emery, 1858-70.
10. Rev. Edward L. Wells, 1870-77.
11. Rev. Taliaffero P. Caskey, 1877-79.
12. Rev. Charles G. Adams, 1879-90.
13. Rev. Edmund Guilbert, 1891—

APPENDIX D.

CHURCH WARDENS AND VESTRYMEN.

There are no Records of Trinity Church, so far as is known, that reach further back than the year 1779, A. D. With the exception of a few names that have been preserved, those who served the parish in an official capacity, previous to that date are unknown. The figures appended to the lists given below, indicate the time when the election took place. For some years there were no wardens elected. A committee, varying in number from year to year, together with the clerk and the treasurer, was appointed to administer the affairs of the parish.

Wardens and Vestrymen, previous to the burning of Fairfield, 1779:

WARDENS.

Moses Ward, 1727,	Isaac Jennings, 1730,
David Lyon, 1727,	Abraham Puling, 1730.

VESTRYMEN.

Dr. James Laborie, 1725,	Samuel Lyon, 1730,
Abraham Adams, 1725,	Isaac Brown, 1730,
Dougal MacKenzie, 1727,	Benjamin Burt, 1730,
John Lockwood, 1727,	Henry James, 1730,
Nathan Adams, 1727,	Moses Knapp, 1730.
Benjamin Sturges, 1727.	

Wardens and Vestrymen from the burning of Fairfield, 1779 to 1898.

WARDENS.

Abraham Bulkley, 1804-25,	Judson Nichols, 1836-37.
Daniel Meeker, 1804-9,	Hull Sherwood, 1837-64,
Reuben Sherwood, 1809-13	Jesse Banks, 1838-39,
Walter Sherwood, 1813-36,	Timothy Williams, 1839-42,

Hull Sherwood, 1825-26,
 David B. Perry, 1826-28,
 Stephen Beers, 1828-29,
 Abel Beers, 1829-30,
 Hull Sherwood, 1830-33,
 Abel Beers, 1833-36,
 William Bulkley, 1836-38,

David Banks, 1842-69,
 Jonathan Godfrey, 1864-83,
 Francis Jelliff, 1883-96,
 Edward Hawkins, 1889-92,
 Lewis A. Curtis, 1892—,
 Oliver Bulkley, 1896—.

VESTRYMEN.

John Sherwood, 1779,
 Ezra Katlin, 1779,
 Peter Bulkley, 1779,
 Daniel Wheeler, 1779,
 Henry Bulkley, 1784,
 Jonathan Bulkley, 1784,
 Rowland Spalding, 1784,
 Thomas Holbertson, 1784,
 Seth Sturges, 1784,
 William Bulkley, 1784,
 Thomas Treadwell, 1785,
 Ozia Burr, 1785,
 Stephen Adams, 1785,
 David Beers, 1785,
 Ichabod Burr, 1785,
 Joshua Jennings, 1785,
 Seth Sturges, 1785,
 Reuben Beers, 1785,
 Thomas Elwood, 1785,
 Ebenezer Nichols, 1785,
 David Jennings, 1785,
 John Perry, 1785,
 Hezekiah Sturges, 1785,
 Nathan T. Nichols, 1787,
 Samuel Cannon, 1790,
 Gershom Bulkley, 1790,

William Sherwood, 1838,
 Walter Bulkley, 1838,
 David B. Sturges, 1838,
 Henry Sturges, 1842,
 George Peck, 1843,
 Augustus Jennings, 1844,
 Henry Perry, 1846,
 Lot Bulkley, 1846,
 Moses Bulkley, 1847,
 Charles Bulkley, 1847,
 Charles Cartlidge, 1847,
 Allen Nichols, 1847,
 Edward Ogden, 1848,
 S. P. V. R. Tenbroeck, 1848,
 Julius Pike, 1850,
 Zalmon Wakeman, 1851,
 Francis Jelliff, 1851,
 Benjamin Pomeroy, 1853,
 John H. Sherwood, 1853,
 George M. Hawkins, 1854,
 Andrew Bulkley, 1855,
 Samuel Pike, 1856,
 Abel Beers, 1856,
 George B. Kissam, 1856,
 Edgar Burroughs, 1856,
 Isaac Milbank, 1858,

- Elnathan Smith, 1793,
 Thomas Nash, 1793.
 Benjamin Sturges, 1793,
 Abraham Bulkley, 1793,
 Daniel Meeker, 1797,
 Aaron Beers, 1798,
 Jeremiah Sturges, 1801,
 David Beers, 1803,
 David Hubbell, 1805,
 David Nichols, 1808,
 Alexander S. Nichols, 1808,
 Nathaniel Perry, 1813,
 Moses Jennings, Jr., 1813,
 Abel Ogden, 1814,
 Abel Beers, 1815,
 Thaniel P. Beers, 1816,
 Hull Sherwood, 1818,
 John Banks, 1818,
 David Jennings, 1818,
 William Robinson, 1819,
 Jesse Banks, 1821,
 David B. Perry, 1823,
 Joel B. Bulkley, 1826,
 Samuel Beers, 1826,
 Joseph W. Davis, 1830,
 George Ogden, 1831,
 Jonathan Godfrey, Jr., 1832,
 John G. Allen, 1833,
 James Bulkley, 1833,
 Stephen Miller, 1836,
 David Banks, 1836,
 William Bulkley, 1858,
 Alva D. Wood, 1858,
 David B. Sturges, 1858,
 Justus Sherwood, M. D., 1859,
 John H. Wood, 1859,
 Jesup B. Wakeman, 1860,
 William H. Thorp, 1860,
 R. DePeyster, 1864,
 Oliver Bulkley, 1868,
 Franklin Bulkley, 1868,
 Lewis A. Curtis, 1873,
 George B. Bunnell, 1874,
 Charles Rockwell, 1875,
 John Hawkins, 1877,
 Howard N. Wakeman, 1879,
 Edward Hawkins, 1880,
 Edward M. Bulkley, 1881,
 Charles F. Bulkley, 1881,
 Francis D. Perry, 1885,
 Abram B. Sturges, 1888,
 E. Livingston Wells, 1888,
 Roderick P. Curtis, 1889,
 Arthur O. Jennings, 1891,
 E. Cornelius Sherwood, 1891,
 Moses Bulkley, 1891,
 Lewis B. Curtis, 1891,
 Oliver T. Sherwood, 1891,
 Nellis H. Sherwood, 1894,
 John Hawkins, 1897, (Second
 election).
 Wilbur C. Jennings, 1898.

APPENDIX E.

BAPTISM'S RECORDED PREVIOUS TO 1799.

1722. May 27th, Mary and Richard Livesay; Abraham Adams.
Baptized by Rev. George Pigot, at Stratford, although belonging to the Town of Fairfield.
November 30th, John Partridge (Adult).
This is the first baptism recorded by Rev. George Pigot, as administered in Fairfield.
1723. June 30th. Ruth Knapp.
1724. April 19th, Elizabeth Hill.
This child was baptized by the Rev. Samuel Johnson.
June 24th, Mary Patrick, (Adult).
Baptized in Norwalk by Rev. Samuel Johnson, and properly included in Fairfield, which at that time, embraced the whole of Fairfield County except Stratford, and Newtown.
July 19th, Sara Livesay.
September 2nd, John, Nathaniel, and Jonathan Whitlock.
November 8th, William Wardell.
1725. March 14th, Mary Patrick.
July 1st, Rebekah Moor, (Adult); Phebe Crowfoot.
August 8th, Mary Ward.
November 10th, Elizabeth, Moses, and Daniel Knapp.
These three were baptized on the day of the annual Thanksgiving, when the Rev. Samuel Johnson opened and dedicated the first Church built on Mill Plain.
1726. February 15th, Isaac Browne.
September 29th, Daniel Ketchum.
November 5th, John Thompson.

1727. January 30th, Ephraim, Abigail, and Hester Nichols :
Lydia Stevens.
May 5th, Benjamin Franklin. (Adult); Benjamin
Franklin, (son of the preceding); Keziah Crowfoot.
May 23rd, Abigail, Benjamin, and Eliphalet Turney.
May 24th, Eliphalet Hill, and Adams Whitlock.
November 12th, William Livesay.
November 16th, Daniel Sherwood, (Adult); Joseph
Browne, John Saunders and Mehitabel Patrick.

These are the last Baptisms recorded as administered by Rev. Samuel Johnson. About this time Rev. Henry Caner returned from England, in Holy Orders, and took charge of the Church in the town of Fairfield. The above names and facts were obtained from the private registers kept by Messrs. Pigot and Johnson. After Rev. Mr. Caner began his ministry, the record of his official acts was kept in a volume belonging to the parish. This was the plan also adopted by his successors. This record full, we may not doubt, of most interesting notitia, was in the possession of the Rev. John Sayre at the time of the burning of the village of Fairfield, and was consumed with the parsonage and its contents.

APPENDIX F.

SOME CURIOUS FACTS IN THE LIFE OF DR. JAMES LABORIE.

The Protestant Episcopal Church in the Town of Fairfield, owes a debt beyond human compensation, to Dr. James Laborie. He was, so far as we know, practically its founder. The earliest services of which we have any record, were held by him. As early as 1723, he officiated as lay-reader, according to the usage of the Church of England, in his own house in Fairfield, on those Sundays on which the Rev. Mr. Pigot preached in Stratford, or some other place. It appears that he came to this country at the close of the 17th Century, as a teacher, under the patronage of the Bishop of London, and being disturbed by the Indians, in the vicinity of Boston, where he first resided, he came to the Colony and County of Fairfield, and began by an introductory discourse, to act as a missionary to the English and native inhabitants, but was interrupted immediately by one of the magistrates. This commencement of his efforts in Connecticut was at Stratford, where he seems to have resided from 1703 to 1717. In the year 1718, he is mentioned as an inhabitant of Fairfield, and there he continued to sojourn until the time of his death. Dr. Laborie, in addition to his qualifications as teacher, and missionary, was also a physician of considerable eminence. William C. Wile, A. M., M. D., in the Centennial Record of the Fairfield County Medical Association, page 22, is responsible for the following information concerning him: and as everything that can be gleaned from the past concerning Dr. Laborie is worth preserving, it is given a place in this appendix:

“On one occasion, while he lived at Stratford, Dr. Laborie was summoned over the river to Milford by Mr. Lyon, the merchant of that place, whose wife was suffering from hysteri-

cal paroxysms, or some nervous affliction. The Doctor promptly obeyed the summons and with three men to row him over the river and through the ice, repaired to the house of the patient. That he attended the case with fidelity is apparent from the fact that in a few weeks he sent his employer a bill for charges exceeding fifty pounds. Mr. Lyon insisted on having the items of what he probably considered a large account, and as the case was brought to Court for judgment, the Doctor was required to make out the bill in detail. From that account I have taken the liberty of making a few extracts: 'Lewis Lyon, Dr., to James Laborie of Stratford, the 18th day of December, 1706, for his wife, my journey through the ice in a canoe with three men to put me over, 12 shillings; same night administered to his wife hysteric cordial, comp. diuretic and hysteric drink, one pound and six shillings.' For several days the hysteric cordial was used freely and several pounds were charged for the same. In about ten days the remedy was changed and four doses of 'my Polycrestis,' were administered at an expense of one pound. The Doctor also charged his friend for 'my Pills Royal,' and 'my Polycrestis,' and 'the Elixir Vitæ of mine,' enough to show that he held them in high estimation. For bleeding the arm the charge was only one shilling, for bleeding the foot, two shillings, and for a blister to the shoulder, nine shillings. The whole amount of the Doctor's bill was fifty-nine pounds and two shillings, and to recover the sum, an action was brought into Court. In this action, states the Record, the jury find for the plaintiff, 'ye defendant to pay 62 pounds, 18 shillings, and 6 pence, and the cost of the Court. The Court accepts the jury's verdict and gives judgment accordingly. Bill of cost allowed 1 pound, 3 shillings, 10 pence. The defendant appeals to the Court of Assistants, at Hartford, in May next, and the defendant and Colonel Mather Sherwood acknowledge themselves bound to the County in a recognizance of 70 pounds cash, that defendant

shall prosecute his appeal to effect and answer to all damages if he may not make his plea good.'

"Mr. Lyon, to strengthen his case, sought the opinion of Dr. John Fisk and several Boston physicians, who gave it as their opinion, that he had been extravagantly over-charged. It is possible that the knowledge of this fact is what led Dr. Laborie to compromise with his debtor, as the following document indicates. To the Honorable Court of Assistants, now sitting at New Haven: For-as-much as we have agreed upon the case before your Court, we pray you would please not to call the action to a hearing.

Your most obedient servants,

James Laborie,

Lewis Lyon.

October, 1708.

"Dr. Laborie died about the year 1730. He bestowed upon his son James, 'all my instruments of Chirurgery, and my French writings.' Concerning James Laborie, Jr., but little is known. It is probable that he received a license from the General Court about the beginning of the last Century, for his application states that he had been in practice for many years, under the direction of his father, whom he refers to as a man of wide reputation and acknowledged ability. He seems to have sustained the reputation of his teacher, and to have become well known in the Colony for his personal attributes, as well as for professional skill."

APPENDIX G.

STATEMENT BY REV. NATHANIEL E. CORNWALL, WRITTEN IN THE
PARISH RECORD, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1851.

The most important facts in the history of this parish, from A. D. 1704, to A. D. 1725, are sufficiently set forth in an historical discourse, delivered by Rev. N. E. Cornwall, at the celebration of the third Jubilee of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, on the 8th Sunday after Trinity, August 10th, 1851, and published at the request of the wardens and vestrymen of the parish. There are other sketches of the same period, drawn from less authentic sources of information, in the first volume of the Churchman's Magazine, (old series,) and in other periodicals of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and various historical discourses concerning other old parishes.

The most needful addition to such annals of this parish, is to be found in a list of names attached to a certain petition or memorial, which was addressed to the Colonial Legislature of Connecticut, in the year 1738, by most of the Episcopalians of mature age, then residing within the Colony. These names are given below. The originals are preserved, with the memorial, in the archives of the State, at Hartford, in the tenth volume of matters "Ecclesiastical." The records of Trinity parish having been destroyed, as is supposed, in the conflagration of Fairfield, 1779, such a list of persons, calling themselves Episcopalians, in 1738, affords the best basis that can be found for a satisfactory estimate of the state and progress of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this vicinity at that interesting period in the history of Connecticut. Most of the names are still common in this Township. But some of them have been for many years quite unknown here. And a few of those which are still common in these parts have been long wanting in the list of members of this parish.

Without data, however, for a comparison of this list with others, usually found in parish registers, no sure inferences can be drawn from such facts.

David Adams,	Robert Lord,
Nathaniel Adams,	Benjamin Lines,
Nathan Adams,	Hester Lines,
Nathan Adams, Jr.,	Robert Lord,
Stephen Adams,	Cula C. Lyon,
Joseph Barlow,	Samuel Lyon,
George Barlow,	Ebenezer Lyon,
Samuel Barlow,	Ebenezer Lyon, Jr.,
Samuel Barlow, Jr.,	Samuel Lyon,
John Bell,	Joseph Lockwood,
Joseph Beers,	Sarah MacKenzie,
Joseph Beers, Jr.,	John Mather,
David Beers,	George McEwen,
David Bostwick,	Nathan Meeker,
David Bostwick, Jr.,	Ephriam Nichols,
Richard Caner,	Ignatius Nicoll,
Peter Coley,	John Nicela,
Jonathan Cutler,	William Osborn,
Samuel Davis,	John Pound,
Moses Downing,	Abraham Puling,
Charles Duncomb,	John Smith,
Josiah Gilbert,	George Stewart,
Alexander Green,	David Sturges,
Luke Guire,	Benjamin Sturges, Jr.,
Ebenezer Guire,	Jonathan Sturges, Jr.,
Ebenezer Hale,	Elnathan Sturges,
Samuel Hill,	Samuel Squire,
William Hill,	William Taylor,
Matthew House,	Daniel Thompson,
Ebenezer Hubbell,	Benjamin Turney,
David A. James,	Thomas Turney,
Nathan Jennings,	Zabulon Waklorn,

Joshua Jennings,	Moses Ward,
John Jennings,	Samuel Ward,
Samuel Jennings,	Nathaniel Whitehead,
John Knapp,	Abigail Whitlock,
Daniel Knapp,	Abraham Whitlock,
James Livesay,	John Whitlock,
Richard Livesay,	John Whitear,
Elnathan Lloyd,	Buckland Williams.

In connection with the above names it is also to be remembered that Trinity parish at that time, embraced Stratfield, (now Bridgeport), North Fairfield, (now Weston.) And it is worthy of notice as not a little remarkable, that among the names herewith recorded, are not found those of Burr, Bulkley, Perry, Sherwood, and Bradley, now so common, not only in this Township, but also among Episcopalians in these parts. This fact would justify a supposition that after that time, as before, there was a tendency on the part of many Congregationalists of this Township towards the Episcopal Church. And it seems quite certain from various circumstances, that there has been always here a very favorable state of feeling in the community at large towards Episcopacy. Some local and temporary disadvantages have sometimes hindered the progress of this parish, but upon the whole, it may be safely said to have advanced much more rapidly than the population of the Township.

APPENDIX H.

SKETCH OF THE CHURCH AT FAIRFIELD WRITTEN BY THE REV.
PHILO SHELTON, 1804.

On the 26th day of August, 1722, the Rev. Mr. Picket, from Stratford, came to Fairfield, and preached at the house of Mr. Thomas Hanford, to about six families. This was the first time that Divine service was performed in the Town, agreeable to the rites and usages of the Church of England. After this, the people met and read prayers among themselves, and the Rev. Mr. Johnson, from Stratford, occasionally preached for them. On the 22nd of June, 1725, a Church was raised at Fairfield, about one and a half miles west, from the meeting-house, and on the 10th of November following, it being a public Thanksgiving Day, the Rev. Dr. Johnson opened the new Church with a sermon suitable to the occasion.

Some where about this time, there was a law, obliging people of all denominations, to be taxed for the support of the Presbyterian worship; this, the Episcopalians looked upon as a great grievance, and some had the resolution to refuse paying this tax, and were committed to gaol. Of this number were Mr. Ward, of Fairfield, and Messrs. Glover and Hard, of Newtown. Upon this, a memorial was presented to the General Assembly, signed by the Church Wardens of Fairfield, praying to be excused from supporting a worship in which they did not believe, nor join. Their prayer was heard, and the taxes of the Episcopalians were allowed in future, to be applied to the support of their own profession, obliging them to be taxed in the same proportion by the Presbyterian's committee, the tax to be collected by their collector, and then paid over to the Church Clergyman, or to the wardens, which law continued in existence until the American Independence.

The Church people at Fairfield increasing some, they were very desirous to have a Clergyman settled among them. They purchased a lot of land, about half an acre, with a house for his accommodation, and sent the deed by the hands of a certain Mr. Henry Caner, to the Society in England, praying that he might be clothed with Priests' Orders, and settled over them. Their petition was heard, and the Rev. Mr. Caner returned to Fairfield in October, 1727, with a salary of fifty pounds sterling per annum, and the people were very happy in his administrations, and the Church flourished under his ministry. The principal people who composed the Church were Messrs. Ward, Adams, Wilson, Hanford, Jennings, Lyon, Barlow, Beers, Sturges, and others. The Church that was first built was small, not sufficient now to contain the members. On the 9th of August, 1738, they raised another, of fifty-four feet by thirty-six, with a steeple, and with charitable donations from New York and from the Society in England, the Church was finished very decently with a bell.

The Rev. Mr. Caner continued at Fairfield, as their minister, until the year 1744. He was then, by the Missionary Society, removed to Boston, to the great grief of the Episcopalians of Fairfield, he being a man of eminent talents, a great preacher, and an able defender of the doctrines of the Church, and a very agreeable, engaging companion and neighbor. While he was at Fairfield, the Church flourished, her numbers increased, and all appeared to be happy. He was born in England, came to America in his youth, was educated at Yale College, studied divinity under Doctor Johnson, married a Miss McKensey, daughter of Mr. McKensey.

He continued a preacher in the Church at Boston until the war broke out between Great Britain and America. When the British troops came there he left town and returned to England, and lived to be a very aged man, and finally died in peace and was gathered to his Fathers, the Lord having prospered him in his work of the ministry, by which many

souls were converted from the error of their ways, established in the faith and rest in hope.

In the year 1745, the Rev. Mr. Joseph Lamson was ordained to the ministry, and placed by the Society in the Church at Fairfield, vacated by the Rev. Mr. Caner, with a salary equal to his predecessor. The members of the Church having increased considerably, those who resided in the Parish of Stratfield, thought it too far to attend at Fairfield, exerted themselves, and in the year 1748, raised a Church in the parish, and the next year it was opened and dedicated by the Rev. Dr. Johnson. The principal proprietors in building this Church were Col. John Burr, Messrs. John Holbertson, Timothy Wheeler, Joseph Seely, John Nichols, Richard Hall, Samuel Beardslee, and others. This Col. Burr was a man of singular abilities, of large property, and a warm advocate for the Church, having received his education in the Presbyterian profession, but when he arrived at mature years, he changed his profession. About this time Whitfield, Tennant, and other zealous preachers, came to this country, fired the people with enthusiasm and an overheated zeal for religion, which the Colonel looked upon as inconsistent with the true Spirit of the Gospel, which teaches order and good government to her children. He turned his attention to the study of the Gospel, and embraced the Church of England, as being most agreeable to the rules of our Blessed Lord and His Apostles. He spent the remainder of his days in the Church, and died in a good old age.

By this time the Church people in the parishes of North Fairfield, and Norfield having increased considerably, and being at the distance of eight or ten miles from the Fairfield Church, they thought it better to build a Church to accommodate those two Societies. They accordingly, in the year 1762, erected a frame and closed it, but soon after, the Rev. Mr. Lamson, being in a poor state of health, unable to officiate much in the out parishes, the Church was not finished before the American

war commenced, which seemed to stagnate all business. In the year 1773, Mr. Lamson sickened and died. He was born at Stratford, educated at Yale College, conformed to the Church of England in the time of the Whitfieldian stir. He supported an honorable character, was much informed and esteemed as a physician, as well as a Divine. He left at his death, a widow and five children, three daughters and two sons. In the time of his ministry, the liberal Mr. Talbot, of New York, made a visit to Fairfield, and left as a benefit for the Church, a very handsome present, to the amount of at least, one hundred pounds, L. M. With some of this money, the trustees of the Church purchased a piece of land, at a place called Round Hill, about nine acres. One hundred dollars was put out to use in the hands of Mr. Jonathan Coley, which since has been collected and applied to the building of the new Church, and another hundred dollars was put to use in the hands of Peter Dibble, who, in the troublesome American war, went to Nova Scotia, forfeited his estate and the Church lost the debt. Mr. Talbot also furnished the Communion Table with a set of plate, which in the time of the burning of the town by the British, was either consumed or plundered; the latter, I think is most probable.

In the year 1774, the Rev. Mr. John Sayre, from Fredericksburgh, was invited by the parish to take charge of the Churches. He wrote to the Society, acquainted them of the death of their missionary, Mr. Lamson, and informed them of the invitation of the people, and should wait their approbation of acceptance.

The Society appointed him, agreeable to the request of the people, and fixed his salary at twenty-five pounds sterling per annum. Mr. Sayre was a man of superior abilities, and a great preacher. He was rather inclining to the Calvinistic principles, but a high Tory. Soon after he settled at Fairfield, the Colonies revolted from Great Britain, which produced a bloody war, and in the contest, in the year 1779, a

party of the King's troops, under the command of Governor Tryon, came to Fairfield, took possession of the town, plundered it and then burnt it, without any distinction to friend or foe. In the general conflagration the Church was consumed, and the parsonage house, together with the library, which contained some hundreds of volumes. The Church Records shared the same fate. This was a most fatal blow to the Episcopal Society of Fairfield, losing the Church, the parsonage, the library, the plate, and at this time Mr. Sayre, with his family, left the town and never returned again, together with a number of the principal inhabitants.

The remainder thought it not best to hang their harps upon the willows, and give up the Church for lost, but relying on the promises of God, that the Church should never be extinct, they called a meeting of the several Churches, viz., Fairfield, Stratfield, and North Fairfield, to take into consideration what was best to be done. They were unanimously of opinion that it was their duty to keep the Church together and have Divine Service performed among them until they could be supplied with a clergyman. They appointed a committee to look out for some candidate to read prayers for them, and upon inquiry, they heard of Mr. Philo Shelton, of Ripton, to whom they applied, and he engaged to open Church for them until they should be otherwise supplied. He continued their reader until Bishop Seabury returned from Europe, clothed with Episcopal authority to ordain and govern the Church, and in August, 1785, Mr. Shelton was admitted to the Order of Deacons, in Christ Church, Middletown, by the Right Rev. Bishop Seabury, and to Priest's Orders, in Trinity Church, New Haven, in September following, by the same prelate, and settled over the Churches of Fairfield, Stratfield, and Weston, with a living salary of one hundred pounds, L. M. per annum, with the use of what lands belong to said Church.

In the year 1790, the Episcopalians thought it best to exert their abilities and see if they could not get them another house. They went to work and in time raised a frame of fifty-six feet by thirty-four, with a steeple, and by September following, they closed it so we were able to meet in it. The Church stands about one mile west from where the last stood, at a place called Mill Plain.

There is, belonging to this Church, a piece of land laying at Round Hill, about two miles from the State line, also the half acre where the parsonage house formerly stood, both of which pieces are in possession of the present incumbent. There is no other property belonging to either of the three Churches.

The Church at Stratfield was not finished until the year 1789, and then it was consecrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury. The one at Fairfield was consecrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Jarvis, the 18th of October, 1798. The number of families belonging to the three Churches is about 200. Communicants one hundred and fifty, (only one of color). All those of proper age have been confirmed. There has been baptized by the Rev. Mr. Shelton since August, 1785, until February, 1799, eight hundred souls, twenty-five of which were adults.

The Borough of Stratfield populating much faster than the other parts of the parish, the greatest number of Episcopalians living in that part of the Society, it was thought best by many that the Church should be placed there. A meeting was called to take the minds of the members, and it was thought advisable to pull the old Church down and build a new one out of the materials, as far as they would go. The vote was taken, and almost unanimously, so to do, and in March 1801, the Church was razed to the ground, and on the 2nd of July following, another frame erected in the Borough of Bridgeport, fifty-eight feet by thirty-eight, closed, glazed, and floored, so as to

meet in it on the 29th of November following. While the Church was in building, they met sometimes in the school house, and sometimes in the meeting-house, where they were invited by the Presbyterians.

[Here the Sketch of the Church, written by the Rev. Philo Shelton comes to a close.]

APPENDIX I.

PAROCHIALES NOTITIAE, BEING A PRIVATE REGISTER KEPT BY
THE REV. PHILO SHELTON, OF THOSE CHRISTIANS, BAP-
TIZED, CONFIRMED, ADMITTED TO THE COMMU-
NION, MARRIED, AND BURIED BY HIM
WHILE RECTOR OF TRINITY
CHURCH, FAIRFIELD,
1785-1825.

(The original is in the possession of Mr. Hamilton Shelton, of Bridgeport. It contains the record of 1,978 Baptisms; 454 Confirmations; 268 Marriages; 588 Communicants; 838 Burials, a total of 4,126.)

BAPTIZED.

1785.

August 14th, Elizabeth, daughter to Dr. Thos. Quinlan; Elijah, son to Isaac Edwards; Clarissa, daughter to Ruel Gray.

August 21st, Sarah, daughter to Ebenezer Mills; Lewis, son to David Nichols.

September 2nd, Peter, son to Benjamin Sherwood.

September 4th, Wakeman, son to John Burr; John, son to Jesse Dickerson; Daniel, son to Seth Bulkley.

September 11th, Anna, daughter to Calvin Whelar; Hannah, daughter to Joseph Treadwell; Jonathan, son to Seth Gilbert; Pallinah, daughter to Thadeus Gilbert; Charles, son to Thomas Green; Nathan Platt, son to Nathan Bennet; Sarah, daughter to Thomas Squire; Joseph, son to John Glover.

September 22nd, Timothy, son to Timothy Shaler; Susanah, daughter to James Allin.

October 2nd, Sarah, daughter to Mary Morehouse; Drusilah, daughter to John Nichols; Jesse Morehouse, son to Peter Stocker; Squire, son to Ezekiel Oysterbanks; Nabby, daughter to Ezekiel Bennet.

October 23rd, John, son to Ruben Gilbert.

November 6th, Ichabod Woolcott, son to Woolcott Chancy; John Whitier, son to Ezra Whelar.

November 13th, Charlotte, Daughter to Jarvis Platt; Phineas, son to John Squire.

November 18th, Esther, daughter to David Sherwood.

November 20th, Eunice, daughter to Thomas Elwood; Elizabeth, daughter to Mr. Bulkley; Rebeckah, daughter to Benjamin Sturges; Lucretia, daughter to John Redfield; Darias, an adult servant to Hezekiah Sturges; Jube, son to Darias.

December 4th, Joseph, son to William Prince; Sarah, daughter to Nathaniel Hubble.

December 21st, Elizabeth, daughter to Samuel Edwards; Lucy, daughter to Isaac Hinman; Josiah, son to Seth Bulkley.

1786.

January 1st, Prince, servant to Jonathan Bulkley, adult; Charles, servant to Capt Wakeman, adult.

January 15th, John, son to Elijah Williams.

January 29th, Mary, daughter to Michael Sealy; Huldah, daughter to James Dascomb.

February 15th, Abby, daughter to Jonathan Cole; John, son to Horlbert Lockwood; Lewis Wakeman, son Dyekman.

April 5th, Charles, son to Gershom Bulkley; Francis, son to Abraham Bulkley; Sarah, daughter to Ebenezer Osbourn; John Burr, son to David Jennings; Talcott, son to David Jennings; Denna, son to Denna Chapman; Tammy, daughter to Joseph Rockwell.

April 13th, Levi, son to Daniel Evis.

April 30th, Philo, son to Jonathan Kinner.

May 2nd, Richard Walker, son to Samuel Booth.

June 4th, Charity, daughter to Elijah Burr; Hannah daughter to William Nichols.

June 11th, Eunice, daughter to Isaac Platt; Abraham, son to Ruel Thorp.

June 14th, Silas, son to Thadeus Guyer.

June 15th, John Morris, son to William Heron.

June 18th, Polly, daughter to Joshua Oysterbank; Samuel Taylor, son to Aaron Ginnings.

June 30th, Joseph Brinsmade, son of James French.

July 2nd, Lucy, daughter to John Lockwood; Peter, son to Robert Sendder; Able, son to Increase Burr; Polly, daughter to Daniel Thorp; Edward, son to Elias Sturges.

July 10th, William, son to Jeremiah Duncan; Daniel, son to ditto, twins.

July 16th, Elijah, son to Zebulon Kirtland; Hezekiah, son to Wilson Whelar; Sally, daughter to John Porter.

July 23rd, Isaac, son to James Sanford; Huldah, daughter to Elijah Williams; Sally, daughter to Nathan Bennett; William, son to Ephriam Nichols; Isaac, son to Nathaniel Whithead; Anna, daughter to Nathaniel Nichols.

July 24th, Betsey, daughter to Josiah Wakelee.

August 13th, Abraham Lion, an adult person; Nathiel Jervis, son to Thomas Gilbert; Levi, son to Abraham Lyon; Polly, daughter to Alexander Smith Platt.

August 23rd, Elezar, son to Silas Beardsley; Philo, son to Silas Beardsley.

September 3rd, Gilbert, son to Jonathan Coley, Jr.

September 6th, Joseph, David, Mabel, William, Siblle, Seth, and Esther, children of Daniel Whelar.

September 10th, Polly, daughter to George Batterson.

September 24th, Eleanor, daughter to Peter Bulkley.

October 1st, Lydea, daughter to Isaac Jarvis.

October 8th, Betsey, daughter to Josiah Smith.

October 22nd, Eunice, daughter to Thadeus Perry, of Northfield ; James, son to John Robertson ; James Edward, son to Nathaniel Ginnings, Mill River.

November 4th, Charity, daughter to Benajah Ross.

November 12th, Jerusha, daughter to Benjamin Sherwood.

November 14th, Ruth, daughter to Denton Sealy.

December 3rd, Tamar, servant to Sarah Forgue, adult.

December 31st, Pierce, son to Edmund Darrow : Edmund, son to ditto ; Caty, daughter to William Peet.

1787.

February 13th, Elijah Nichols, Allelia, Silena, children of Jonathan Edwards ; Paullina, daughter to Michael Beardsley ; Sarah, daughter to Zalmon Lyon ; two children for Perry, the shoemaker.

February 20th, Anna, daughter to James Redfield, Jr. ; John, son to ——— Dudley.

March 4th, Charles Pulford, son to Deborah Lorin.

March 5th, Augur, son to Elijah Hubbill ; Anna, daughter to ditto ; Rossel, son to Gideon Hubbell ; Hesper, daughter to Dimothy Chapman ; Dennis, son to Andrew Burns.

March 11th, three children at Redding, Joseph, Andra, John Darling.

March 13th, Deborah Burns, an adult ; Abijah, son to John Hubbill.

April 1st, Platt, son to Calvin Whelar, Jr. ; Naomi, daughter to Baruck Taylor.

April 4th, Duthen, son to Elnathan Benjamin ; Betty, daughter to Agur Wells.

April 15th, Maria, daughter to Philo and Lucy Shelton ; Lucy, daughter to John and Huldah Burr ; Anna, daughter to Thomas Quinlan.

May 15th, Lucy, daughter to Joseph French.

May 20th, Abigail, daughter to Josiah Bulkley ; Sally, daughter to John Redfield ; Huldah, daughter to Hannah Persons.

May 27th, Murry, son to Pamy Blackleach; Rebeckah, daughter to Hezekiah Beach; Lydea, daughter to Eli Beardsley.

August 19th, Munson, son to Isaac Hinman; Thomas, son to Isaac Edwards.

September 16th, John Sprague, an adult.

October 14th, William, son to Angel Trubee; Samuel Comfort, son to Gershom Bulkley.

1788.

March 16th, Nathaniel, son to Leamon Sherwood; Irena, daughter to Ruel Grey.

May 12th, Hezekiah Meeker, an adult; Whelar, a son to Hezekiah Meeker; Alfred, son to Ezra Winton; John, son to James Vaughn.

June 7th, David, son to David Lacey; Ruth, daughter to D. Lacey.

June 10th, Theophiplas, son to Eli Nichols; Charles, son to Walter Whitney.

June 26 Zebulon Waklee; son to Zebulon Kirtland.

July 3rd, Hull, son to James Redfield, Jr.; James, son to Jesse Lyon.

July 27th, Rachel, daughter of Elijah Raymond.

August 24, Lydea, daughter to Jonathan Baker.

September 7th, Sally, daughter of Seth Bulkley.

October 12th, Munson, son to Elijah Burr; Anna, daughter to William Nichols; James, son to James Allen; Pheby, daughter to Charles Wing.

October 14th, Mary, daughter to Eben Thorp; Isaac, son to Nathaniel Fairchild.

November 7th, Mary, daughter to John Perry.

1789.

January 8th, Maria, daughter to William Pect.

February 3rd, Anna, daughter to Jonathan Bradley.

February 15th, Perseverance, a child of Aaron Gennings.

April 29th, Olive, daughter to Zebulon Kirtland.

May 3rd, Nancy, daughter to Joseph Bulkley; Sarah, daughter to Jesse Lyon.

May 10th, Anson, son to John Burr.

May 31st, Thomas, son to Dr. Thomas Quinland; Cloe, daughter to Lyman Meeker; John Odel, son to Hezekiah Meeker; Samuel Lynson, son to Samuel Edwards.

August 4th, John, son to Joseph French.

October 18th, Ann, daughter to Denton Sealy.

October 25th, Abel, son of Josiah Bulkley; Esther, daughter to Abraham Bulkley.

November 7th, John Porter, an adult person; James, son to John Porter; Nathaniel, son to ditto.

1790.

February 3rd, Molly Baker, Oliver Roe, adult persons; Mary, daughter to Ezra Whelar; Phillip, son to David Nichols, and two other children for the same, whose names I forgot; two sons for John Nichols, John and Eliphalet; two children for Ephriam Nichols; two for Master Riley; one for David Baker.

February 3rd, three for Levi Foot; two for — Robertson; three for Epharas Wakeman; one for Ezekiel Bennitt.

March 7th, Sarah, daughter to Benjamin Sturges.

April 11th, Ann, daughter to Philemon Sherwood; Alden, son to Ezra Winton.

April 30th, Antony, son to Jonathan Baker.

May 9th, Philo Nichols, son to Philo and Lucy Shelton.

May 12th, Abigail Burr, daughter to Daniel Meeker; Gershom, son to Gershom Bulkley; William, son to William Bulkley; Nathaniel Knap, son to Nathaniel Jinnings; Alpha Jackson, son to Nathaniel Jinnings.

June 6th, Esther, son to Elias Sturges.

June 9th, Francis Maria, daughter to Ransom Clark.

20th, Herman, son to Limuel Bangs.

27th, Amelia, daughter to Gould Nichols; Samuel, son to Nathan Treadwell; Abraham, son to Jonathan Skinner.

July 1st, Richard, son to Joseph Blackleach.

July 7th, Peter, John, Chapman, and Sarah, children of Peter Smith; Mabel and Daniel, children of Ebenezer Smith; Benjamin, son to Meeker Murwin.

July 22nd, Alfred, son to Increase Burr; Charity, daughter to William Hurd, Southbury.

August 8th, Eunice, wife to Banks Morehouse, adult; Moses, son to Captain John Burr; Betsey, daughter to ditto.

August 22nd, Wilsana, daughter to Wilson Whelar; Harriot, daughter to Isaac Hinman; Cyrena, daughter to William Nichols.

August 29th, Stephen Bradley, son to Elijah Williams; Esther, daughter to Lyman Wakeman.

September 5th, Joseph, son to Joseph Bears.

September 12th, Anna Bulkely, daughter to Jabez Man, New Fairfield; Timothy Whelar, son to Ruel Grey.

September 19th, Mary, daughter to Thadeus Bradley; Elijah, son to Jesse Nichols; Nathan, son to Daniel Nichols; Medad, son to Eli Wakeman; Sarah, daughter to David Baker.

October 29th, Elizabeth, daughter to Peter Whitney.

October 31st, Samuel Whitney, son to Elmor Gilbert; Abigail, daughter to Eliphilet Whelar; Anson, son to Ebenezer Mills, Jr.

November 11th, ———, wife to Seth Gilbert, Nortfield; Hannah, daughter to Daniel Duncan; Mary, Othniel, children of David Morehouse.

November 12th, Lewis, son to Seth Gilbert.

November 14th, David Craft, an adult.

November 21st, Persilla, daughter to Ezekiel Oysterbanks.

December 5th, George, son to William Peet; Lucia, daughter to David Barlow.

1791.

January 30th, Sarah Sprague, an adult; Peter, son to Hannah Patching; Eunice, daughter to David Barlow;

Betsey, daughter to the same; Hezekiah Sturges, son to Allen Nichols.

February 13th, Weston, Sarah, daughter to Nathaniel Davis.

February 27th, George, son to Josiah Smith; Phebe, daughter to John Burr.

April 7th, Adams Wakeman, son to Smith Platt; Sally Dimon, daughter to Moses Hull; Elizabeth, daughter to Fanten Sherwood.

January 30th, Peter, son to Captain Peter and Grace Whitney.

April 24th, Rhenama, daughter to John Robertson; Nabby, wife to William Robertson; Nabby, daughter to William Robertson; Elizabeth, daughter to the same.

May 8th, Daniel, son to Daniel Cable.

May 15th, Esther Burr, daughter to Aaron Jinnings.

May 22nd, Anna, daughter to Charles Wing.

May 28th, Charles, son to Albert Lockwood; Charity, daughter to Albert Lockwood; Tabby, daughter to Seth Squire.

May 29th, Charlotte, granddaughter to Abel Seeley.

June 29th, Esther, daughter to Stephen Stephens; Ransoler, son to Noah, a Negro.

July 3rd, Wilson, son to John Porter.

July 10th, Isaac Morehouse, son to Ezekiel Sturges; Jane, daughter to Banks Morehouse; Elehn, son to Baruk Taylor; Lettice Lewis, daughter to Samuel Goodsel.

August 21st, Timothy Hubbel, son to John Cardwell; Ebenezer, son to John Lord.

August 25th, Samuel, John, sons to Thomas L. Colyer; Hannah, Lydea, children of Ruben Gilbert; Abigail, daughter to Ebenezer Davis; Johathan, son to Robert Mills; daughter to Jonathan Robertson.

August 28th, Nathaniel Burr, son to John Perry; David Bears, Joseph, sons to Joseph Perry, twins.

September 18th, Lucretia, daughter to Josiah Bulkley.

October 2nd, William, son to Calvin Whelar; Robert Cornwall, son of John Jackson, Jr.

October 9th, Elizabeth, daughter to Joseph Beers.

October 22nd, James Grey, an adult; Hannah daughter to James Grey; Nathaniel, son to Thadeus Perry; Mary, daughter to Jared Duncan; Hannah, daughter to Joseph Morgan.

October 30th, Jesse and Jonathan, sons to Edmund Barlow.

November 1st, Sarah and Elizabeth, daughters to David Morehouse, twins.

November 6th, Charles, son to Philemon and Hepya Sherwood.

November 13th, Henry, son to Abraham Lyon; Jesse, son to ——— Bennett.

November 20th, Joseph Hill, an adult; Rachel, Hulda, Polly and Nathan, children of Joseph Hill.

November 27th, Elizabeth, daughter to Zebulon Kirtland; Polly, daughter to Patrick Keelar.

1792.

January 6th, Charity and Rhodah, daughters of Peter Nichols; Nathan Gilbert, son to Levi Foot; Hellenah, daughter to Joseph Burr;

February 12th, Jerusha, daughter to Elnathan Smith.

March 17th, Sarah, wife to Ebenezer Munroe, adult; Benjamin, son to ditto; Silas, son to Benira Munroe; Thomas and Sarah, children to Joseph Tredwell; Lois, daughter to Jonathan Cole; Hanford, son to Moses Wakeman.

March 17th, Sarah, daughter to Gob Nichols; Silas, son to Ebenezer Davis; Elen Bixby, son to Jonathan Morehouse.

March 18th, Peleg and Dennis, children to John Lockwood; Jesse, son to Increase Burr; Burritt, son to Alben Bradley;

March 25th, Cherlottee, daughter to Abraham Bulkley.

March 30th, Charity, daughter of Widow Taylor; Ruth ditto of John Dimon; Aaron, son to Hezekiah Mecker;

Andrew Taylor, son to Lyman Meeker; Polly, daughter to John Dimon.

April 1st, Betsey, daughter to William Nichols; Levi, son to Silas Beardsley.

April 6th, Lois, John and Mary, children of Samuel Darling; Ebenezer Lyon, son to William Platt; Zalmon, son to Isaac Edwards; Polly, Hannah and Philo, children of Daniel Lyon; Hellenah, daughter to Aaron Bulkley; Anna, daughter to Ezra Lyon; Asa and Sally, children of Isaac Lyon.

April 7th, Sarah, Ebenezer, Rachel, and Rena, children of John Murwin; John, son to Ezekiel Lyon; Sarah Lyon, an adult.

April 8th, Sally Bates, adult; Clary, daughter to Moses Wakeman; Ruth Youngs, daughter to Ezra Whelar; Stephen, son to Daniel Whelar, Jr.

April 15th, Grummond Morehouse, son to Joshua Jennings, Jr.

May 20th, Charity, daughter to Jonathan Bradley.

June 17th, Sarah, daughter to George Hayt; Elizabeth, daughter to Samuel Penfield; Dinah, servant to Hannah Bulkley.

July 1st, James, son to Elisha Brown.

July 15th, Henrietta, daughter to Philo and Lucy Shelton.

July 16th, Polly, daughter to William Bulkley; Abigail, daughter to Joseph Hanford; Clarissa, daughter to ditto; William, son to John Hanford; Rebecka, daughter to ditto; Lewis, son to ditto.

July 27th, Samuel, son to David Craft.

August 26th, William, son to Stiles Peet; Ransom, son to Nathaniel Jinnings; Stephen, son to John Robertson, Jr.

September 10th, Elijah, son to John Whitehead.

September 22nd, Anna, daughter to George Batterson; Nathan son to ditto.

September 23rd, Sally, daughter to David Thorp.

October 7th, Lucretia, daughter to John Burr.

October 21st, William, son to William Robertson.

October 28th, Mary, daughter to Stephen Burroughs.

November 4th, David, son to John Burr; Morris, son to Ebenezer Burr; Bradley Hull, son to Ephriam Nichols, born September 7th, 1792.

November 11th. Eben, son to Joseph Bulkley; Hellen, daughter to Seth Sturges, Jr.; Lucy and Annice, servants of Jonathan Sturges, Esq.

November 13th, Stephen, son to Levi Foot; Walter, son to Master Ryley.

November 18th, Ransom Bennett, son to Michael Seely; Nancy, daughter to Eunice Dascomb.

December 16th, Easter, daughter to Ezra Winton; Sarah, Charity, Charles, Bradford and Joseph, children of Joseph Winton.

1793.

January 27th, Elyia, daughter to Platt Bennett; Charlotte, daughter to Ebenezer Bulkley.

January 30th, William and John, sons of Patrick Keeler, twins.

February 10th, Lewis, son to Elijah Burr.

February 16th, Clarry, daughter to Peter Bulkley; Nehemiah Curtiss, son to Stephen Sanford.

February 17th, Alfred, son to Amelia Wakeman.

March 2nd, Rossel, son to Gideon Wells; LeGrand Cannon, son to L. Burr Sturges.

March 10th, Sarah, daughter to Timothy Hubbel, Jr.

March 29th, Vina, daughter to Samuel Whelar.

April 11, Robert, son to William Pike.

April 15th, Anna, daughter to Robert Lynus.

April 29th, Robert and William Whitney, children of Elijah Sealy.

May 1st, David, son to David Morehouse; Anna, daughter to Thomas Squire.

May 5th, Eleazer, son to William Peet.

May 12th, Ward, son to Jessey Nichols, Jr.; Rheumih, daughter to John Nichols.

May 27th, George Finch, son to Zechariah Sherwood.

June 16th, Lydea, daughter to John Porter.

June 23rd, Baley Stilson, son to Jonathan Coley, Jr.; Catherine, daughter to John Jackson, Jr.; Nabby Wakeman, daughter to Nathan Tredwell; Eben Thorp, son to Nathan Tredwell; Eli, son to John Whelar; Ebenezer, son to Ebenezer Mills, Jr.; Anna, daughter to Daniel Whelar, Jr.; Jonathan Bradley, son to Jonathan Robertson; Daniel, son to David Nichols.

June 26th, Jessey Young, an adult; John Wilson, son to Daniel Young, Jr.

July 2nd, Ezra, son of Annis, servant of S. Cannon.

July 7th, Sally, daughter to Isaac Human.

July 14th, Andrew Winton, son to Elmer Gilbert.

August 4th, Munson, son to Banks Morehouse; Laurinda, daughter to Ezekiel Sturges.

September 1st, Pamela B., daughter to Ephriam Robins; Samuel, son to Elnathan Smith.

September 15th, Abby Burr, daughter to Eben Gould; Permelia Burr, daughter to Eli Wakeman.

October 6th, Ezra, son to Ezra Lyon.

October 13th, Sarah, daughter to David Barlow, Fairfield.

October 20th, William Edwards, son to William Nichols; Abijah, son to Robert Dascomb, Jr.

October 24th, Albert, son to Nathaniel Nichols; Catherine, daughter to Augur Wells; Maria, daughter to Isaac Nichols; Frederick, son to Isaac Bateman.

October 27th, Maretta, daughter to Alben Bradley; Presilla, daughter to Joseph Burr; David Lyon, son to Robert Mills.

November 10th, Lewis, son to Elnathan Hoyt.

November 24th, Esther Mary, daughter to Samuel Cannon.

December 8th, Benjamin, son to James Wakeman.

December 17th, Betsey, daughter to Sarah Clarke.

1794.

January 31st, Hall, son to Agur Sealey ; Catherine, daughter to ——— Taylor.

February 9th, Andrew Winton, son to Jacob Grey.

February 26th, Stephen, son to Stephen Burrough, Jr. ; Esther Meeker, an adult.

March 23rd, Lydea, daughter to Increase Burr ; Abigail, daughter to Alex Smith Platt.

April 2nd, Hezekiah, son to John Hubble ; Gideon, son to Elisha Hubble ; Lucy, daughter to Lewis Nichols ; Charlotte, daughter to Antony Labory, and one more which name I have forgotten.

April 9th, Betsey, daughter to Selah Shelton ; Lucius, son William Bray ; Prosper, son to Ephriam Lewis ; Nehemiah Lorin, son to ——— Perry ; Benjamin, son to ditto.

April 15th, David, son to David Jinnings ; Henry, son to Samuel Nash ; Morehouse, son to Joshua Jinnings ; Sally, daughter, and Simeon, son to James Redfield.

May 4th, Huldah, daughter to Ezra Whelar ; Jervis, son to Ezra Winton ; Lewis Benedict, son to James Gray ; Jessey, son to David Burr.

June 2nd, Anna, daughter to David Morehouse.

June 15th, Presilla, daughter to Gould Nichols ; Ebenezer Nichols, son to Joseph Tredwell ; Betsey, daughter to Eben Davis ; Hannah, daughter to Robert Downs ; Anna, daughter to David Thorp.

July 6th, Esther daughter to John Lord ; Mable, daughter to Thomas Squire ; Polly, ditto to Job Lockwood.

July 13th, Polly, daughter to Jonah Bulkley.

July 27th, Sally Jackson, an adult.

August 17th, Sarah Wakeman, Adult ; Jabez Jinnings, son to Stephen Wakeman.

September 14th, David, son to Thaddens Perry ; Maria, daughter to Benjamin Sturges ; David, son to William Robertson ; John Gould, son to Seth Sturges.

September 28th, Betsey, daughter to Thaddeus Gilbert ; Judson, son to Joseph Winton.

October 15th, Mathea, daughter to William Bulkley.

October 18th, Rhoda Gilbert, daughter to Jonathan Robertson.

October 19th, Betsey, daughter to Samuel Gilbert ; Alma, daughter to Thomas Lyon.

October 29th, Silas, son to Peter Morehouse ; Amos, son to Silas Beardsley.

November 16th, Bradford, son to David Craft.

November 20th, Abigail and Sarah, daughters to Jer. Lobden.

November 21st, William Burr, Lewise Nichols, and Harriot, children of Capt. Thomas Nash ; Burr, Mary Burr, George, children to Thomas Nash, Jr.

November 22nd, Philip Andrew, son to Jonathan Samuel Cannon.

November 30th, Tildah, daughter to Ezra Oysterbanks.

December 30th, Abigail Hetta, daughter to Dr. John Lester.

1795.

January 4th, George, son to Zebulon Kertland.

February 8th, Annice, daughter to Prince Bulkly.

March 1st, Harriot, daughter to Moses Beers ; Jonathan White, son to Gertham Beers.

March 21st, Anne, daughter to Joseph Booth.

March 29th, David, son to Denton Sealey.

March 30th, LeGrand Cannon, son to Lewis B. Sturges.

April 4th, Zalmon, son to Gould Lord ; Hannah, daughter to the same ; Mable Lockwood, daughter to Seth Squire.

April 12th, Mary, daughter to Selah Shelton ; Anna, daughter to Enoch Cogger.

April 14th, Rebecca, daughter to John Burr.

April 19th, Henry, son to Rev. Philo and Lucy Shelton ; Naoma, daughter to John Hall.

April 21st, Roxah, daughter to Agur Sealey: Andrew Lynsen, son to Robert Nichols.

April 23rd, William Henry, son to Daniel Youngs.

April 26th, Eleanor, daughter to Eben Beers: Sarah, daughter to Ezekiel Bennett: Philo, son to Joseph Bradley.

April 29th, Christopher Newton, son to Agur Shelton.

May 10th, Anne Maria, daughter to James Allen.

May 17th, Eunice, daughter to Isaac Lyon; Lucinda, daughter to Platt Bennett.

June 7th, Cherlotte, daughter to John Nichols: Charity, ditto to Justise Raimond.

June 21st, Clarissa Allen, daughter to Lyman Meeker.

June 28th, Bradley, son to John Burr: Lyman Banks, son to Lyman Whitney.

July 5th, Hellen Thorp, daughter to John Robertson.

July 19th, Jonathan Kenor, an adult: Susannah, daughter to Daniel Cole.

August 9th, Hannah, wife to Eben Lockwood, adult: Ann, daughter to the above: Hanford, son to Jonathan Kenor; Anne, daughter to Levi Foot.

August 16th, Judson, son to Allen Nichols.

August 23rd, Joseph, son to Eben Allen.

August 30th, John Banks, son to Banks Morehouse: Daniel, son to Elisha Brown: Clarissa, daughter to James Grey; Jabez Grey, son to ——— Hubble; Stephen, son to John Porter.

September 20th, Eli, son to Daniel Whelar: Hellen, daughter to Stephen Whelar; Daniel, son to John Jackson.

September 25th, Lucy, daughter to Philemon Sherwood.

October 18th, Betsey, daughter to David Barlow; Huldah, daughter to ——— Godfrey; Betsey, daughter to Elnathan Smith.

November 1st, Martin, son to Stephen Lyon; Abby, daughter to Solomon Oysterbanks; Edward Jack, son to Simon, Negro.

December 6th, Minerva, daughter to William Peet.

December 12th, Morehouse, son to Jonathan Cole; Hellen, daughter to John Lockwood; John, son to Eliphalet Dikeman; Daniel, son to Hezekiah Dikeman; Isaac, son to Job Lockwood; Sally, daughter to Robert Downs.

December 13th, Minor, son to Robert Mills.

December 16th, Presilla Burr, daughter to Elpn. Robins; Jabez Hubbel, son to Nathaniel Jinnings; Frederic, son to Paul Sheffield; Rowland, son to William Robertson.

1796.

January 23rd, Betsey, daughter to Lazarus Beach.

Charles Granderson, son to Charles Wing.

March 6th, Sarah, daughter to Stephen Sturges: Bradley, son to Jonathan Goodsel.

March 29th, David, son to Joseph N. French.

April 16th, Laura, daughter to William Platt; Walter, son to Jabez Bennett; Jarvis and Polly Elmira, Sam Darling children; Burr, son to Eliphalet Bradley; David and Sally Ann, John Underhill; Woolsey, son to Jesse Nichols, Jr.; Fanna, daughter to Andrew Hill, Esq.

May 15th, David Hull, son to David Belden; Orelia, daughter to Eli Mitchel; Marietta, daughter to Elijah Burr.

June 18th, Catherine, daughter to Jonathan Cole.

June 19th Fanna, daughter to David Burr; Amelia, daughter to Samuel Sanford; Obediah, son to Ezra Wheeler; Daniel Hill, son to Jesse Nichols; David, son to Robert Keener.

June 26th, Eunice, daughter to Aaron Jinnings.

July 10th, Eunice Banks, daughter to Isaac Gilbert.

July 14th, Bears, son to John B. Hall.

July 15th, Polly Sherman, daughter to Sherman Barritt.

17th, Sally, daughter to Gersham Beers; Wakeman, son to Moses Beers; Judson, son to Seth Sturges, Jr.; Henry, son to William Pike.

July 31st, Malinda Murrin, daughter to Hannah Mills.

August 12th, Eunice Wakeman, daughter to Burr Sturges ; Nichols, son to Eleazer Lacey.

August 20th, Levi, son to Eliphalet Beers.

August 21st, Anna Wakeman, daughter to Robert Mills : Thomas, an adult Negro.

September 5th, Polly Betty, daughter to Joseph Booth.

September 25th, Almira daughter to Eben Booth.

October 2nd, Maretta, daughter to Nathan Tredwell : Amelia, daughter to Winton Thorp.

October 24th, Charles, son to David Thorp.

October 30th, Ezra Morehouse, son to Ezra Kuap.

November 13th, Deborah, daughter to Increase Burr ; Marvin, son to Joseph Winton : Matildah, daughter to Jacob Grey, Amelia, daughter to Eben Burr.

December 9th, Solomon, son to Ephras Goodsell : Esther Squire, an adult : William, son to Isaac Hinman.

1797.

January 7th, Sophia Shelton, daughter to Samuel Edwards.

January 15th, Eunice, daughter to Timothy Hubble.

January 22nd, Ellihu, Hellen and Dimon, children of Eli Wakeman.

January 27th, Eliza, daughter to Samuel Wheeler.

February 12th, Alpheus and Ezra, children of Lebbeus Brown.

March 5th, Ebenezer, son to Peter Jinnings ; Levi Jinnings, son to Ephriam Burroghs.

March 10th, Hersey, son to Agur Seeley ; Philo, son to Philo Lyon : Isaac Beach, son to P. Lyon.

March 19th, Lydia Murwin, daughter to David Nichols.

April 9th, Mable, daughter to Lyman Whitney : Hull, son to Adad Bradley.

April 13th, Anna, daughter to Patrick Keeler.

April 29th, ——— Able Bradley ; four children of David Whitehead.

May 12th, Lois Jinnings, daughter to Ozias Burr.

May 21st, Hanford, son to Gould Nichols; Allen, son to Elisha Brown.

June 4th, Edwin, son to David Barlow.

June 9th, Henry, son to Stephen Burroughs.

June 10th, Munson, son to Silas Beardslee.

June 24th, Anna Maria, daughter to E. Wheeler Sherman; John, son to Comfort Burritt.

July 8th, Lucretia, daughter to Stephen Burrough.

July 30th, Henry, son to Isaac Marquand.

August 4th, Lydea, daughter to Daniel Lord; Susannah, daughter to Daniel Young.

August 15th, Samuel Daniel, son to Samuel F. Shelton; Philo, son to Joseph N. French.

August 20th, Sarah, daughter to Thaddeus Perry.

August 21st, David Hall, son to Lemuel Bangs.

August 27th, William Henry, son to William Peet.

September 3rd, Sarah, daughter to John Sanford.

September 17th, Edria, daughter to Ebenezer Allen; Maria, daughter to James French.

September 24th, Alfred, son to ——— Raymond; Jonathan, son to Jonathan Coley.

October 15th, Alson, son to John Lord; Arretta, daughter to Job Lockwood; Ephriam, son to Eben Lockwood; Elizabeth, daughter to Thomas Squire; ——— son to Daniel Wheeler.

October 16th, Alphonson, son to Seth Wakeman; Seth Wakeman, an adult.

December 3rd, Henrietta, daughter to William Bulkley; George Bulkley, son to John Albert.

December 7th, Charity, daughter to William Holbertson.

December 16th, Anson, son to Jabez Bennett; Walker, son to Isaac Lyon; Eli, son to Lemuel Hawley; William Lockwood, son to Winton Thorp.

December 24th, Benjamin, son to Samuel Osborn.

1798.

January 7th, Daniel Meeker, son to Alexander Russiea; Susannah, daughter to Nath Gilbert.

January 23rd, Albert Edwards, son to Albert Sherwood; Sarah Curtiss, daughter to Albert Sherwood; Polly, daughter to Isaac Edwards.

February 1st, Marius, son to Elnathan H. Bostwick.

March 18th, James, son to John Hopkins.

April 1st, Edwin, son to Calvin Wheeler, Jr.; Philo, son to Samuel Sanford; Abigail Wakeman, daughter to Lyman Bradley.

April 6th, Caroline, daughter to Amos Burr; Abby Maria, daughter to John Porter.

April 20th, George, son to Eleazer Lacey.

April 29th, Aurelia, daughter to David Wheeler; Stephen, son to Joseph Shelton; Beach, son to Joseph Downs; Lucius, son to Isaac Downs; Russel, son to Benedict Labored; Louvissa, daughter to Samuel Beardslee.

May 11th, Pascall, son to Paul Sheffield; Julia, daughter, and Julius, son to William Pike, twins.

May 12th, Molly, daughter to James Gray; Squire, son to Barney Lockwood; Eri, son to Jabez Grey; Harmona, daughter to J. Grey's wife; Sillyman Adamas, son to Mary Bulkley.

May 20th, Caroline, daughter to Gersham Bulkley; David, son to William Nichols.

May 31st, Polly, wife to Patt Wall, adult; Sarah, Thomas, and William, children of Patt Wall.

June 2nd, George, Son to Isaac Hinman.

June 3rd, Albert, son to David Nichols, Jr.

June 10th, Samuel son to Joseph Perry; Susan, daughter to William Sherwood.

June 7th, Samuel, Phillip, Gersham, Abijah, Sarah, and Lyman, children of Philip Bennett.

July 8th, Walter, son to Elnathan Smith.

July 15th, Elizabeth Wakeman, daughter to Hull Fanton.

July 22nd, Sarah Hill, daughter to Burr Sturges; Catherine, daughter to Richards Nichols.

July 26th, Eliza, daughter to Stephen Burroughs.

August 1st, Walter, son to Joseph Hanford; Philander, son to ditto.

August 5th, Daniel, son to David Wheeler; Bradley, son to Robert Downs.

August 12th, Jesup Taylor, son to Aaron Jinnings; Joseph, son to James Fairweather.

August 26th, Zadock, son to Robert Kinner.

September 2nd, Joel Burr, son of Abraham Bulkley. Baptized by Mr. Clark of Providence.

Sept. 16th, Willys, son to John Nichols; Timothy, son to Peter Nichols, Jr.

September 20th, Mercy, daughter to Nathaniel Eels; Charles, son to Isaac Booth; David Burr, son to Jacob White.

October 7th, Mable, Henry, and Aaron, children to Joseph Morgan; Levi and Beldon, sons to Levi Taylor; Hezekiah Gould, son to John Lord.

October 21st, William, son to Philo and Lucy Shelton.

October 28th, Lydeann, daughter to Eben Bears, Newtown.

November 9th, Minerva, daughter to Eben Booth; Anna Maria, ditto to David Booth; James, son to David Myriet; David Eli, son to James McKinsey.

December 15th, Isaac, son to John Peet; Louissa, daughter to John Robertson; Charles Edwin, son to Ezra Godfrey; LeGrand, son to Nathaniel Jinnings; Juliann, daughter to James Bulkley; Charles, son to Ephriam Robbins.

December 28th, Rebecca, daughter to Samuel I. Beardslee.
1799.

January 9th, Andrew Griffin, son to —— Turrill; Rebecca Maria, daughter to Beardslee; Thomas Mann, son to Sarah Beardslee; these three were Baptized at Newtown.

February 10th. Walter, son to Joseph Tredwell.

March 10th. Eunice and Sally, twins of Daniel Youngs, Jr.

March 17th, Juliet, daughter to Sue, Negro.

March 23rd, Fanny, daughter to Platt Bennet; Polly and Anna, children of ——— Patchen.

March 24th, Wakeman, son to David Burr.

April 14th, William, son to Nehemiah Bradley.

April 25th, Philo, son to Ozias Burr, Jr.

April 28th, David, son to David Morehouse.

May 12th, George, son to Ezra Knap.

May 26th, Charlotte Hull, daughter to William Wilson; Sarah Bennet, daughter to John Robertson; Cinthea, Allathea, daughter to Sarah Wheeler; William Hill, son to Jesse Nichols.

July 1st, LeGrand, son to Silas Bardslee; William Sanford, son to William Nichols; James, son to Peninah Seeley.

July 7th, Mary, daughter to Barney Lockwood; Maretta, daughter to Samuel Brown.

July 14th, Frederick, son to Isaac Marquand.

August 4th, Anna Burr, daughter to Morris Beers; Elizabeth, daughter to Gersham Beers.

August 7th, Rowland and Benjamin, son to William Robertson; Lyman, son to Nathaniel Jinnings; Maria, daughter to Ezra Godfrey.

August 31st, William Parrott, adult; Sarah Hannah, Ebenezer Allen, children to William Parrott.

September 15th, Susannah, daughter to Allen Nichols; Mary Burr, daughter to Seth Sturges, Jr.

September 25th, Sally, daughter to Isaac Hinman.

November 17th, George, son to Aaron B. Sturges.

November 28th, Seth, son to Samuel Osbourn.

December 5th, David, son to Agur Shelton.

December 21st, Nathaniel, son to Nathaniel Eels.

December 29th, Elizabeth, daughter to John Patchen.

December 31st, Nathaniel, son to Huldah Parsons.

1800.

January 19th, Right, son to Jacob White.

March 2nd, Nash Thorp, son to William Pike; Eunice, daughter to William Bulkley.

March 15th, Eunice, daughter to Jonathan Cole; Hezekiah, son to Thomas Squire; Maria, daughter to Daniel Squire; Henry Winkley, son to Daniel Cole: Alvira, daughter to John Lockwood; Walter, son to Levi Thorp; David Sturges, son to Jesse Crossman; Pamela, daughter to Jonah Rockwell; Alba, son to Ebenezer Gilbert; Sally Caroline, daughter to Hez. Dikeman; James, son to Simon Morehouse, Negro.

March 17th, Frederick Tomlinson, son to William Peet.

March 26th, Dolly, daughter to Phyllis, Negro.

March 27th, Oliver, son to Wheeler Sherman; Nathaniel son to James Fairweather.

April 19th, Edward, son to Isaac Lyon.

May 11th, Sophia Nisbot Hall, daughter to Mrs. Beach; Fanny, daughter to Lazarns Beach.

May 18th, Huldah, daughter to Samuel Sanford.

June 15th, Caroline, daughter to William Sherwood; Philo, son to Elnathan Smith.

June 24th, Isaac, son to Ezra Wheeler.

June 29th, Anna, daughter to Sherwood Fanton; Linsen, daughter to Thomas Colyer; Munson, son to ———

July 20th, Delia, daughter to John Albert: Jonathan, son Increase Burr; Betsey, daughter to Eben Burr; Charlotte Burr, daughter to Alben Bradley.

July 27th, William Downs, an adult.

August 28th, Lydea, daughter to Philo Lyon.

August 30th, Susan, daughter to Samnel French.

August 31st, Betsey, daughter to Eben Nichols: daughter to Gould Nichols.

September 8th, Emita Emmula Mahitable, daughter to Eleazer and Sarah Lacey.

October 12th, Marinda, daughter to David Wheeler ; Abigail Dimon, daughter to Nath Davis ; Hellen, daughter to Gould Bradley ; Olive, daughter to David Bradley ; a child of Robert Dows.

October 17th, Nathaniel Lathrop, son to —— Capers : James Nash, son to David Craft.

October 19th Caroline, daughter to Joshua Jinnings.

November 7th, Sarah, wife to Daniel Clayford : James, son ditto ; Elizabeth, daughter to ditto ; Francies Pierson, son to James Allen ; Josiah Sturges, son to George Hayt : Mary Ann, daughter to William Parrott.

November 22nd, Frances Augusta, daughter to James Hayt.

December 14th, Mary Ann, daughter to Thomas, Negro.

1801.

January 29th, David Peter, son to David Mynott.

February 1st, Hannah, wife to Benjamin Godfrey ; Samuel, son to Benjamin Godfrey.

February 15th, Gilbert, son to Moses Wakeman.

February 18th, Sally Nichols, daughter to Isaac Seeley.

March 3rd, Harry Wheeler, son to Samuel Wheeler ; Julian, daughter to ditto.

March 22nd, George Augustus, son to Philo Shelton ; John, son to Amos Burr ; Nash, son to Ozias Burr.

April 19th, Pheby, daughter to John Glover ; Munson, son to Levi Thorp ; Sally Orsbourn, Polly Beach, daughters to Eben Row ; Anna Lockwood, Anson ——, children to Jabez Grey ; Betsey, daughter to Peter Thorp ; Abigail Bradley, daughter to Aaron Thorp ; Hull, son to Joel Davis ; Ziba, son to Platt Bennett ; Elam, son to Joseph Bradley.

May 31st, Wyllis, son to David Burr, Weston.

June 20th, Climenia, daughter to Samuel Lord ; David and Abbacinda, Jabel Sturges ; Docia, daughter to Jarec Duncan ; David and Ebenezer Silliman, Eben Hubble ; Alvalinea, daughter to Thomas Squire ; Lydea and Abigail, Elen Thorp ;

Ahaz Silleck, Sarah Morehouse; Albert, Jabez. and John, Jabez Sherwood; Jesse, son to Obediah Platt.

June 21st, Hellena, daughter to Peter Nichols; Eliza, daughter to Lyman Whitney.

July 12th, Lucius, son to Minor Jackson Harry, son to Samuel Brown; Charles, son to Jesse Crossman; Jonathan Brunson, son to Asa Beardslee.

August 30th, Truman, son to Nathaniel Jinnings; Jenathan, Munson, and Eliza, children of Richard Bangs; Ruth, daughter to Obediah Squire.

September 27th Gurden Seymour, son to Isaac Marquand.

October 11th, Samuel, son to Samuel Orsbourn.

October 23rd, Francis, son to William Peet; Mary Ann, daughter to James Leaworth.

October 24th, Horace, son to ——— Whitlock.

November 1st, Isaac Chauncy, son to Ezra Godfrey; Harriot, daughter to Benjamin Godfrey.

November 15th, Levi, son to Samuel Sanford.

November 22nd, Easter Judson, daughter to Joel Goodsel.

November 25th, Isaac, son to Sterling Sherman.

December 17th, Hannah Hoyt, daughter to Nathaniel Ells; Frances Ann, daughter to Samuel Hawley; George Hanford, son to James McKinsey; Sarah, daughter to John Peet.

1802.

January 5th, Harry, son to Ira Smith.

January 17th, Peter and Ahas, sons to Miles Oakley.

January 25th, Joel Thorp, son to William Pike; Sarah Ann, daughter to John Robertson; James, son to James Bulkley; Eurana Church, Thomas LeGrand, and Benjamin Franklin, children of Thomas Smith, Mill River.

February 14th, William, son to Gersham Beers; Joseph, son to Jacob White.

March 7th, Abby Jane, daughter to Gersham Bulkley.

March 14th, Samuel James, son to John Camp, Norwalk.

March 19th, Francies Susan, daughter to Samuel French.

March 21st, Abba Jane, daughter to Ezekiel Oysterbanks.

April 4th, Caroline, daughter to Lazarus Beach.

May 1st, Wakeman Hill, son to Eliphalet Dikeman.

May 9th, Huldah Burritt, daughter to William Bulkley.

June 13th, Fanny, daughter to Calvin Wheeler ; Elizabeth, daughter to Alexand. S. Platt ; Dencey, daughter to Increase Burr ; Warren, son to Jesse Nichols ; Angelina, daughter to Elehu Nichols.

June 20th, Evelina, daughter to William Sherwood.

July 25th, three children of Libeus Brown.

August 25th, four children of David Oysterbanks, in Greenfield ; two of James Downs, at the Junction.

September 5th, William, son to Robert Downs ; Zalmon, son to John Mills ; Abigail Lyon, daughter to Nathiel Davis ; Daniel, son to ——— Keeler.

September 26th, Darius, son to ——— William, Greenfield.

October 3rd, Mary, daughter to Elnathan Smith.

October 16th, Samuel Jinnings, son to Ebenezer Lockwood ; David Sherwood and Wakeman, sons to Beeby Grey ; Levi and Marinda, children of Joseph Whitlock ; David Osbourn, son to James Grey ; William and Laura, children of Job Lockwood ; Stiles Peet, son to William Green ; Charles Green, son to Jonah Rockwell.

October 21st, Elam, son to William Nichols ; Caroline, daughter to Isaac Sealey ; Ira Allen, son to ——— Sherman.

October 26th, Hannah, daughter to Ephriam Lewis ; Maria, daughter to Everett Lewis.

November 4th, Ezra, son to Samuel Hawley.

November 6th, Daniel Holms, son to Aaron Lyon ; Polly Ann, daughter to ditto.

November 7th, Alonzo, son to John Halbert.

November 16th, George Jarvis, son to James Bulkley ; Smith and Silas, sons to William Robertson.

1803.

January 8th, Patty, daughter to Gould Nichols ; Squire, son to Nathaniel Gilbert ; Huldah, daughter to Eben Gilbert ; Polly, daughter to Meeker Murwin ; Nehemiah, son to Joel Davis ; Ebenezer, son to Aaron Thorp ; Eliza and Charles William, children to Peter Thorp ; Salome, a child presented for Baptism by Eben and Sarah Guyer.

March 6th, George, son to Isaac Hinman.

March 19th, Charles, son to Stephen Burroughs ; Clarissa, daughter to Samuel Wheeler.

March, 25th, Levi, son to Daniel Young ; Joshua, son to Daniel Lord.

March 27th, Mercy Caroline, daughter to James McKinsey.

April 10th, Sally, daughter to Eben Bulkley ; Charles, son to the same.

April 22nd, Samuel son to William Cable.

May 15th, Samuel Hawley, son to Obediah Platt.

June 26th, Levi, son to David Burr, Weston.

July 1st, Wilson Wheeler, son to John French.

July 9th, Caroline, Munson, Susannah and Eliza children to Daniel Evis.

July 24th, Abby Hall, Sarah Hill Wakeman, adults ; James Stewart Osbourn, son to Samuel Osbourn, deceased.

July 31st, Susan, daughter to James Fairweather ; William, son to Wheeler Sherwood ; Elsey, daughter, to Asahel Dunnings.

August 28th, David, son to Samuel Sanford ; Samuel, son to Lyman Whitney.

September 18th, Samuel, son to Silas Wheeler ; Zalmon Coley, son to Samuel Brown.

September 22nd, Levi, son to Sterling Sherman.

September 25th, Polly, daughter to Lyman Godfrey.

October 2nd, David Hugh, son to Amos Burr ; Margaret, daughter to Philo Shelton ; Charles Edward, son to Ozias Burr.

October 8th, James Seely, son to Mrs. Seely, Norfield; Margaretta, daughter to Eben Hubble; John and Rachel, children of Robert Sturges; Bethiah, daughter to Jabel Sturges; Miles, son to Ebenezer Lockwood; Sally Morehouse, daughter to Johathan Morehouse and Huldah Lockwood.

October 9th, Edgar Bennet, son to Seth Wakeman; a daughter of the same man; three children belonging to Norfield; one for Ezekiel Oysterbanks, Jr.

December 11th, Anna, daughter to Robert Downs.

1804.

January 29th, Albert, son to Joshua Jennings.

April 1st, Abigail, daughter to Capt. David Beers.

April 23rd, Benjamin Muirson, Abraham Minthorne, Esther Ann, children of Benjamin M. Woolsey; David Allen; son to Abijah Morehouse.

May 20th, Edward William, son to William Peet.

June 7th, Whetmore, son to Jesse Nichols, Jr.; Marina, daughter to Peter Nichols.

June 25th, Mary, daughter to David Middlebrook.

July 8th, Harriot, daughter to Abel Nichols.

August 1st, Harriot, daughter to Aaron Hubble.

August 8th, Samuel, son to the same; Polly Jarvis, daughter to Thomas Smith; Samuel Brister, son to Samuel Bennett; George and William Bulkley, sons of Ephriam Robbins; John, son to William Robertson; Ellihu, son to William Bulkley; Charles and Caroline, children of Abijah Wakeman; Adaline, daughter to Joab Squire; Abigail and Sally, daughters to Benjamin Darrow; Sally Ann, daughter to Nath. Jennings.

August 12th, Rebecca, daughter to Isaac Burroughs.

August 19th, Sirlene, son to Ellihu Nichols.

August 31st, John, son to Isaac Lyon.

September 1st, David Judson, son to Joel Goodsel.

September 30th, Eunice, daughter to Obediah Platt; Bradley, son to Ezekiel Oysterbanks.

October 20th, Charles, son to Libeus Brown; Clara, daughter to John Godfrey; a child of Samuel Godfrey.

October 21st, Charles, son to Jabez Sherwood; Sally Ann, daughter to ditto; William, son to Eleazer Lockwood; Anson, son to Netus Webb; David Treverse, son to Joseph Whitlock.

October 21st, Nabby, daughter to Jesse Crossman.

October 28th, Elizabeth Sprague, adult; William Sprague; Sally, daughter to Eben Burr.

December 2nd, Lucy and Lucinda, twins, daughters to Samuel Darling.

1805.

January 13th, Margaret, daughter to William Pike; Paul, son to Paul Sheffield; Burr, son to John Robertson; Munson, son to Joab Squire.

February 22nd, Benjamin Samuel, son to Samuel Wheeler.

March 17th, Samuel and Laura, children of Solomon Oysterbanks.

March 24th, George, son to Elnathan Smith.

April 7th, Baruch Taylor, son to Alexander Nichols; Nathan Burr, son to Nathan Keeler.

May 12th, Erastus, son to Ozias Burr, Jr.; Frances Ann, daughter to Isaac Hinman.

June 15th, Isaac Webb, an adult; Susan, daughter to I. Webb.

June 16th, Burr, son to Enos Blackman; Sarah Maria, daughter to James Fairweather; Mary, daughter to Silas Shelton; Betsey, daughter to John Peet.

June 27th, Lucretia, Hull, Eunice, Eleanor, Abby, children to Benjamin Sherwood; Eliza, Myrinda, children of Samuel and Sarah Dimon; Richard Montgomery.

June 29th, Harvey, son to Sterling Sherman; Susan, daughter to Israel Blackman; Ira Brunson, son to ditto.

September 4th, Lucretia Burr Watson, daughter to George and Deborah Hayt; Susan Matildah, daughter to Levi

Hubble; William Henry Hamilton, son to James Allen; Frances Caroline, daughter to Curtiss Blackman.

September 15th, Rebecca, daughter to Amos Burr.

September 30th, Daniel, son to Daniel Clarford; Mary, daughter to William Cable.

October 13th, Ezra Thorp, son to Samuel Brown.

November 23rd, Charles Edwin, son to James Gray; Eunice, daughter to Beebe Gray; Hezekiah, son to Eben Lockwood; Laurinda, daughter to Jabel Sturges.

1806.

January 26th, Clary, daughter to Gould Nichols; Nathaniel Daweman, son to Nathaniel Davis; Benjamin Hubble, son to Gould Bradley; William Curtiss, son to ——— Beers; Horace, son to Increase Burr.

January 9th, Caroline, daughter to Joshua Lord.

March 30th, Eliza Ann, daughter to Clark Gregory.

April 10th, Morris, son to Samuel Sturges; Bradley Hill, son to ditto.

April 14th, Lazarus Bethana, son to Annis, Negro; Charlotte, daughter to Thomas, Negro; John, son to John Burr.

April 25th, Nancy Thorp, adult; Thomas and Hannah, children of Elisha Thorp; Sally, Polly, Abigail Dimon, children of Eliphalet D. Thorp.

May 9th, John Divine, son to Nath. Jinnings; Clarissa Sabens, daughter to ——— Smith; Rosilla, daughter to James Bulkley; Aaron Jinnings, son to Aaron Hubble.

May 18th, ——— daughter to Hill Meeker.

June 1st, Andrew, son to Ebenezer Burr.

June 8th, Emela Catherine, daughter to William Sherwood.

July 6th, Sarah Ann, daughter to William Peet; Benjamin Bostwick, son to Samuel Kirtland.

July 18th, Detia, daughter to Thomas Nash; Elizabeth, Esther, Charity and Temperance, children of Thomas Nash, Jr.

August 3rd, Betsey, daughter to Jonathan Jones.

August 7th, Nat. Winton and Orpheus Smith, sons of Nathan Perry.

August 31st, Mary, daughter to David Craft.

September 14th, Eliza, daughter to Sturges Coley ; Clarissa, daughter to Nathan Tredwell ; Emmila, daughter to Ezekiel Oysterbanks ; Jesse, son to John Bradley ; Caroline, daughter to Eben Roe ; Abby, daughter to Nathan Gilbert ; Harry, son to Aaron Bennett ; daughter of Abel Nichols ; Orland Oren, son to Alexander Nichols.

September 22nd, Huldah Gould, adult ; Benjamin, son to Joseph Gould ; Deborah, daughter to the same ; Lewis, son to the above ; Robert, son to Ezra Godfrey ; Catherine Lucy Chauncy, daughter to ——— Kenneay.

October 4th, Samuel Sturges, son to Joseph Lockwood ; Laurinda, daughter to Jesse Roes ; Jonathan Downs, son to Jabez Grey ; Alonzo, son to the same ; Daniel, Jesse and Betsey, children of Eleazer Newcomb ; Moses, son to Huldah Lockwood.

October 5th, Samuel Bradley, adult.

October 12th, Esther Jane, daughter to Stephen Osborn.

October 26th, Wheeler, son to Samuel Sanford ; David, son to Samuel Wakeman.

November 30th, Burr and George, children of William Goodsel ; Ruth Marinda, daughter to Eben Booth.

1807.

January 13th, Abel, Mary, Sarah, Sturges, Eunice and Isaac, children of David Bears ; Haunah and Walter, children of Joseph Bears ; Presilla, daughter to Libbeus Brown ; Laura, daughter to Lyman Godfrey ; Maria, daughter to Benjamin Godfrey.

January 25th, Samuel, son to Samuel Sturges.

February 12th, Jeannette, daughter to Stephen Burroughs.

March 19th, Mary, daughter to Elijah Burritt ; Sarah Hall, an adult ; Eliza, daughter to James Fairweather ; Elijah Henry, son to Samuel Hawley.

April 12th, Huldah Hill, daughter to Hull Fanten ; Langley, son to ditto ; Henry Thorp, son to David Thompson : William Wakeman, son to Eliphalet Thorp.

May 2nd, Hezekiah, son to Capt. Wilson, deceased.

May 24th, daughter to Moses Burr, Jr.

June 7th, Mary Elizabeth, daughter to Nathan Tisdale ; Charles Kent, son to Jabez Norman.

July 19th, Catherine Ann, daughter to Isaac Hinman.

July 25th, George Howe, son to Clark Gregory.

July 26th, Bradley Banks, son to Eben Nichols ; Sally Hubble, daughter to ——— Banks.

August 2nd, Benjamin Smith, Alden, sons of Oliver Middlebrook ; Aaron Burr Bradley and Ruth, children of Daniel Downs ; Walter, Mable, Charlotte, Horace and Hiram, children of Squire Smith.

August 16th, Harriot, daughter to Robert Downs.

August 23rd, Charles, son of Elnathan Smith.

September 6th, Seabury, son to David Oysterbanks ; Ann Bulkeley, daughter to the same.

September 11th, Henry Abraham, son to Levi Hubble ; Sheldon, son of Sheldon Sherwood.

September 27th, Munson, son to Ezekiel Oysterbanks ; Horace, son to Peter Nichols ; Wallace, son to Jesse Nichols ; Mary, daughter to Zalmon Wakeman.

October 11th, Frederick, son to Amos Burr.

November 8th, Eliza, daughter to Samuel Brown.

November 29th, Sarah Wheeler, daughter to ———

December 3rd, Sally Ann and Elizabeth, children of Capt. Jonathan Mallbly.

1808.

February 14th, Mary Cornelia and Abijah, children of Isaac Burroughs.

February 23rd, Rebecca, daughter to David Trubee ; George, son to John French ; Haverlin, son to John French.

March 15th, Laura, Manea, and Amarillas, children of David Nichols.

March 27th, Johanna Mary, daughter to George Hoyt.

April 2nd, Paulina, daughter to Nehemiah Bradley; Hezekiah Bradley, son to Hull Murwin; Sally Baldwin and Anna Caroline, children of Mehor Murwin; Catherine, daughter to Jonathan Banks.

June 5th, Moses Munson, son to Robert Mills; William Anson, son to Jonathan Jones; Sarah, daughter to Hull Fanten; Esther, daughter to Jabez Hill.

June 25th, Mary Burr, daughter to Thomas Nash, Jr.; Frederic Augustus, son to John Hanford.

June 26th, Eben Squire, son to Daniel Cole; Sarah, daughter to Joseph Lockwood; Joseph Squire, son to ——— Rockwell.

July 10th, Harriot Maria, daughter to Samuel Kirtland.

September 11th, Catherine Maria and Eliza, children of Mrs. Tousey; Emeline and Catherine, children of Abraham Wilson.

September 22nd, Sally Henrietta, daughter to David Lake; Stephen, son to Jared Mansfield; Peter Corelyou, son to Isaac Tomlinson.

November 20th, Harvey Newel, son to Harvey Page; Thomas, son to William Robertson; Sarah, daughter to Joseph Tredwell; Sarah Jinnings, an adult; William George, son of Samuel Wheeler.

November 30th, George Virgil, and Mary, children of Joab Squire, twins; Lucinda Fairchild, daughter to Eben Bulkley; Eunice Taylor, daughter to Moses Jinnings; Smith ———

December 8th, Julia Ann, daughter to James French; Anna, daughter to William Cable; Ezra Church, son to Ezra Porter.

December 28th, ——— Edwin, son to Phillip Walker; Caroline, daughter to ditto.

1809.

January 10th, Rebecca, daughter to John Maltbec.

January 26th, Agnes, daughter to Simeon Tomlinson.

February 16th, John Tredwell and Sally, children of ———
Coggshill, Derby.

February 22nd, Munson Hoyt, Sally Osborn and Dimon,
children of David D. Bears.

April 23rd, Mary, daughter to David Osborn; Lucretia
Sherwood, daughter to Abel Ogden; Caroline Matilda,
daughter to Benjamin Godfrey; Julian, daughter to Lyman
Godfrey.

May 14th, Eunice, daughter to Samuel Sturges.

May 25th, Betsy Miles, an adult; Amarillas Beardslee,
adult; Johanna Susan, daughter of B. Miles; Jeannette,
daughter to Amarillas Beardslee: Stephen Downs, son to
William Nichols.

May 28th, Eliza, daughter to Moses Burr; Frances Susan,
daughter to Richard Hyde.

June 20th, Catherine, daughter to Jason Gould.

July 2nd, Niel Sherman, son to Jesse Ford; Hannah
Blakesley, daughter to Titus Seymour; Delia, daughter to
Ebenezer Ford.

July 9th, Wakeman, son to Eben Burr; Abigail Turney,
daughter to Z. Wakeman: George Scudder, son to Alexander
Nichols.

August 6th, Eleanor Hull, daughter to Joseph Banks;
Samuel Squire, son to Seth Sturges; Seth Morehouse, son to
the same.

August 13th, Joseph Sheldon and William Henry, sons of
Joseph Clark.

August 20th, Maria, daughter to Richard Hubble.

August 27th, Elizabeth, daughter to Stephen Osborn.

September 10th, Mary, daughter to Jonathan Cole; Walter,
son to Jesse Nichols; George, son to Timothy Burr;
Marietta Albert, daughter to John Bradley; Abraham Dudley

Baldwin, son to Daniel Downs; Aaron Deen, son to ——— Banks.

September 17th, David Seeley, son to Seeley Meeker; Elizabeth Adeline, daughter to Elijah Kirtland.

October 1st, Bradford Jinnings, adult.

October 22nd, Eunice Gilbert, Desire Mills, adults; Austin, son to Ell Nichols; Charlotte, daughter to John Patchen; Ebenezer, son to Robert Downs; Julia Mehitable, daughter to Silas Shelton.

November 12th, Eliza Ann, daughter to Barney Lockwood.

December 2nd, Amy Maria, daughter to David Whaland.

December 3rd, Pollinah, daughter to John Bears.

December 17th, ——— Allen, adult.

1810.

January 7th, William Burrell, son to William Burrell.

February 4th, Jonah, son to Sheldon Sherwood; Raymond, son to Ezekiel B. O. Banks.

February 14th, Annah Maria, daughter to ——— Roe; Aulanda, Malinda, and Elizabeth, daughters to David Thorp.

February 20th, Charles, Benjamin, and Ephriam, sons to James Penfield.

February 25th, Jane Lewis and George Burr, children of Gershom; Charles, son to Ezra Godfrey; Agur, son to Ezra Godfrey; Lydia Ann, daughter to Elijah Shelton; Elijah Lynsel, son to Elijah D. Shelton; Edwin Nichols, son to Everitt Thomson.

March, 16th, Caroline, daughter to Robert Clark; Abby, Jane, Daniel, and George, children of Daniel Mills.

March 25th, Ebenezer Thorp, son to Jesse Andrews.

April 3rd, Theodore, son to James Allen.

April 22nd, Henry Augustus, son to Amos Burr.

May 13th, John Sylvester and James Phineas, sons of James Spragg.

June 10th, Mary Ann, daughter to Seth Osbourn.

June 17th, Mary Perry, daughter to Walter Sherwood; Munson, son to Elnathan Smith; Eunice Maria, daughter to James Smith.

June 24th, James Bronson, Charles Denison, sons to James Crofut.

June 27th, Betsey, daughter to Stiles Nichols; James Wilson, son to John Porter; Daniel Squire, adult; Polly Sherwood, adult.

July 15th, Levi Jesup, son to Ozias Burr, Jr.

July 22nd, Mary Ann, daughter to Albert Lockwood; Alba Burr, Mary, children to Eben Lockwood; Harriet daughter to Beebe Grey.

July 29th, Henry Judd, son to Samuel Bears, Jr.

August 12th, Alonzo, son to Bradford Jinnings; Charles Anson, son to Joseph Lockwood.

August 29th, Clarine, daughter to Hill Meeker.

September 30th, David Osborn, son to David Allen; Charlotte, daughter to David Trubee; Samuel Curtiss, son to Samuel Trubee; George, son to Lyman Godfrey.

October 7th, Edward Ebenezer, son to Jonah Prindle; Catherine Ann, daughter to Isaac Burroughs.

9th, Lewis, son to ——— Brown; Phineas Whitney, son to Jesse Row; Sarah Lockwood, daughter to Jabez Grey.

October 16th, James Increase, son to ——— Blackman; Mary Wheeler, daughter to John French; Bradley Dimon, son of Seth Seeley.

October 21st, Peter Whitney, son to Abel Beers; William, son to Joab Squire; Eliza, daughter to John Peet; Jane Maria, daughter to Charles Bostwick; William Bostwick, son to Samuel Kirtland.

October 31st, Eunice, daughter to ——— Jinnings.

November 28th, Horace, son to Clark Gregory.

December 25th, Henry, son to Jeremiah Sturges.

1811.

January Adelia, daughter to Isaac Booth : Daniel, son to Samuel Hawley.

March 12th, John, son to Samuel Wakeman.

April 15th, Francis, son of Samuel Hawley.

May 12th, Eliza, daughter to Sheldon Sherwood.

May 19th, Henry, son to Ward Bulkley ; Mary Bears, daughter to David B. Perry.

June 16th, David, son to Abel Ogden.

June 30th, Sturges Perry, son to Levi Hugg.

July 7th, Wealthy Persens, an adult ; Betsey, daughter to Wealthy Persens ; Betsey, daughter to Harvey Page ; Francis, son to James Fairweather.

July 13th, Mary, daughter to Joseph Darling.

July 14th, Samuel Coley, son to Samuel Brown ; William, son to Eben Burr ; Seth Wakeman, son to John Branley ; son, to Joseph Meeker.

August 8th, Ambrose, son to Agur Hubble.

August 9th, Elizabeth, daughter to William Peet.

August 11th, Emeline, daughter to David Osborn ; Joseph, son to Joseph Banks.

August 18th, Jane Elizabeth, daughter to Stebens Smith ; Jane Hill, daughter to Samuel Dimon.

November 3rd, Harriot and Harry, twins to Peter Nichols ; Catherine Amanda, daughter to Charity Nichols.

November 17th, Eunice Wakeman, adult, and her four children.

December 9th, Rebecca, daughter to Sterling Sherman ; Mary Johanna, daughter to Samuel Wheeler.

1812.

January 8th, Charles and George, children of James Dascomb ; Philo, son to Eleazer Beardslee.

January 10th, Sturges Lewis, son to J. Lewis Bristol.

January 15th, Eliza Ann, daughter to —— Blake; another of the same family: Elizabeth, daughter to —— Middlebrooks.

February 2nd, Henrietta, daughter to Samuel Sturges.

March 1st, Mary, daughter to Robert Downs; Pormelia, daughter to Peter Banks; Jane Hanford, wife of J. Hanford-adult.

April 26th, Hannah, woman of color, an adult.

May 17th, Elizabeth, daughter to Amos Burr.

May 31st, Munson Hinman, son to Richard Hyde.

June 7th, Jerusha Maria, daughter to Morse R. Botsford; Edgar, son to Ephriam Robbins; Nabby Robertson, daughter to —— Dewey.

June 10th, Catherine, daughter to Ozias Burr; Milla Goodsel, Allthea Sherwood, Sally Banks, adults.

June 13th, Wakeman, son to George Washington Goodsel; Anna and Mary, daughters to Levi Sherwood; John, son to Lewis Goodsel; David Meeker, son to Philo Foot; David Hubble, son to Daniel Downs; Polly and Emmira, children to Hez. Sherwood.

June 28th, Azariah Burton, son to Alex. Nichols.

August 8th, Betsey, daughter to Peter Sturges.

August 30th, Sarah Ann, daughter to Joel Goodsel.

October 22nd, Charles William, son to Charles Bostwick.

October 24th, Susannah and Mary, children of Gershom Bears.

October 25th, Willis, son to —— Blake.

November 27th, William Patch, an adult; Nathaniel Wilson, son to William Patch.

1813.

January 10th, Charles William, son to Steben Smith.

April 18th, Harvey, son to John French; Abby Emma; daughter to Dr. Nathan Tisdale; Mary Lucretia, daughter to Joseph P. Shelton; Henrietta Clarke, daughter to Samuel Kirtland.

April 25th, Elizabeth, daughter to Abel Bears; William, son to Abel Ogden.

May 30th, Harriot, daughter to Calvin Wheeler; Catherine, daughter to Jonathan Cole; James, son to Jesse Brown.

Chatherine Murrin, daughter to Miles Oakley.

June 6th, Lothrop, son to Samuel Bears, Jr.; Amanda, daughter to Ward Bulkley; Caroline Silliman, daughter to Joseph Bulkley.

July 4th, Morris, son to Steven Bulkley.

August 8th, Ann Maria, daughter to Harvey Page.

December 16th, Mary Sophia, daughter to Sally Meeker.

1814.

January 1st, Sarah Ann, daughter to Lewis Brewster; William, son to James Penfield.

January 11th, Mary and John Burr, children of Jesse Scovil; George, son to William Bedent; Elijah, son to Agur Hubble.

February 21st, Samuel, son to Robert Downs; Jesse Squire, son to Barney Lockwood.

April 3rd, Willis, son to Shelden Sherwood.

April 8th, Elizabeth Hyde, daughter to Jesse Andrews.

April 13th, William, son to Nathaniel Jinnings.

May 1st, Sarah Ann, daughter to Amos Burr; Eliza Ann, daughter to Charles Nichols.

June 18th, Sophia and Margaret, daughters of Samuel Hawley.

July 6th, Reuby Ann, daughter to Seth Seeley.

July 8th, York, a man of color.

October 1st, Lewis, son to Lewis Goodsel; Eunice, daughter to George Goodsel; Rowland, son to Daniel Downs; Moses and Catherine, children of David O. Banks; Abraham, son to Noah Banks; Ebenezer, son to James Goodsel; Isaac Brock, son to ——— Thomas; son to Alexander Nichols; Samuel, son to Samuel Wakeman.

October 30th, David Roberts, son to James Allen.

November 2nd, William Nichols and Elizabeth Ann, children of William Goodsel: Eliza Jane, daughter to Joseph Clarke.

November 6th, Mary Ann, daughter to Sturges Nichols.

November 25th, Frederick Augustus, son to Samuel Wheeler.

December 18th, Mary Frances, daughter to Edmund Darrow.

December 26th, Sarah Ann, daughter to Lewis S. Brewster.

1815.

January 24th, Olivia Kirtland, daughter to Ira Peck.

March 15th, Horace, son to Elijah Nichols, Greenfield.

March 26th, Jonathan, son to Abel Beers.

March 30th, Wilsany, daughter to John French.

April 5th, Alvira, Sarah, and Henrietta, daughters to Walter Nichols.

May 14th, Jane Maria, daughter to William Warden; Abraham Hubble, son to Daniel Young.

June 11th, Harriot Eunice, daughter to Dr. N. Tindale.

June 18th, Samuel, son to Samuel Beers; Morehouse, son to Joseph Bulkley.

July 16th, Henrietta, daughter to Jeremiah Sturges.

September 10th, Betsey Smith, wife of George Smith, adult.

October 8th, William Henry, son to Ozias Burr, Jr.; Jared, son to Harvey Page.

October 22nd, Moses, son to Sturges O. Banks; Joseph, grandson to Ezekiel O. Banks.

October 29th, Jane, daughter to Job Bartram.

October 30th, William and Maria, children of ——— Middlebrook.

November 9th, Samuel Bradley Middlebrook, an adult.

November 20th, Henry and Henrietta, twins of Agur Hubble.

November 26th, Charles Burritt, Maria Abby, children of Caleb Beach.

December 2nd, Frederick Samuel, son to Samuel Kirtland.

December 14th, James, son to James Fairweather: Lucy Ann, daughter to William Patch.

1816.

January 13th, Elizabeth and Lavina, daughters of Capt. Curtis Blackman: Isaac, son to Munson Hinman.

January 24th, Simeon, son to Sylph, a boy of color.

February 11th, James Weeks, an adult.

February 14th, Jerusha Middlebrooks, adult: Hiram, John Mills, Frances Ann, and Mary Delia, children of Middlebrook.

February 18th, Phillips Perry Porter, Alonzo Cable, Rossel Cable, Lent Munson Hitchcock, Catherine Middlebrook, adults.

March 18th, Sarah Ann, adult: Hannah, daughter to ——— Fairchild.

March 21st, Henry son to David Penfield: Elizabeth Penfield, and a son of Adad Bulkley: Azariah Gould, and a daughter of ——— Coggsel.

April 1st, Henry Augustus and Maria Phillips, children of ——— Sillick; William Richard Jinnings, adult.

April 28th, George, son to William Robertson.

May 5th, Morse Kent, son to Morse H. Botsford.

June 12th, Maximillia, daughter to John Chatterton.

June 13th, Thomas. son to Lewis Goodsel; Malvina and Betsey, daughters to Daniel Smith; Paulina, daughter to Eli Wheeler: Sarah, daughter to James Goodsel; Zalmon, son to Joseph Sherwood; Samuel Wakeman, son to Abraham Banks.

June 16th, Jane Catherine, daughter to George Smith.

July 21st, Maria, daughter to Edmund Darrow: Jane Ann, daughter to David Trubee.

August 4th, Emma Rebecca, daughter to Caleb Beach.

September 1st, George, son to Ward Bulkley.

October 13th, Elizabeth, daughter to Abel Ogden: Presillia, daughter to Thaniel P. Beers.

October 22nd, Nathan Keeler, son to Seeley Meeker.

October 27th, Lewis Wheeler, son to Joel Goodsel.

November 17th, Charles William, son to William Warden.

December 29th, Harriot Hinman, daughter to James Allen.

1817.

January 1st, Eliza, daughter to David Nichols; Rufus, son to Abel Nichols.

March 4th, Mary Burr, daughter to Isaiah Jinnings; Frances Mary, daughter to Levi Burr.

March 5th, Samuel Peet, Hellen Peet, adults; Emeline, daughter to Samuel Peet; Shelton Beach, son to Samuel Straten; Samuel Edwards, son to ditto; George Wilson, son to Samuel Hawley; William Burr, son to Samuel Middlebrook; Henry Edwards, son to William Goodsel.

March 23rd, Jane Hanford, wife of Joseph Hanford.

April 6th, George William, son to Bradley Middlebrooks; Susan Caroline and Minerva, children of Sheldon Smith; Samuel Stebens, son to Stebens Smith; Ann Loiza, daughter to Rosel S. Nichols; George Horatio, son to Nathan Tisdale; Ann Maria, daughter to Nichols Burr.

May 25th, Eliza Meed, an adult; Maria Meed, her sister; June, daughter to Richard Hyde; Rosel Stiles Nichols, Mr. Hitchcock, adults.

July 13th, John Francis, son to Francis Bulkley; Griselda Bradley, Mary Bradley, sisters, adults.

July 17th, Catherine and Mary, daughters to Hill Meeker.

August 10th, Charles Benjamin, son to Epinchis Curtiss.

August 17th, Emeline Augusta, daughter to Benjamin Brooks.

October 4th, Susannah, daughter to Sally Hawkins.

November 21st, Joseph Bulkley, an infant.

November 29th, Henrietta, daughter to Joseph Bulkley; Mary Ann, daughter to Joseph Brooks.

November 30th, Jane Elizabeth, ditto to Samuel Kirtland.

December 16th, Emeline Lucretia, daughter to David Curtiss; Edward, son to Samuel Peet; Frances Ann, daughter to James French Jr.

1818.

January 18th Horace, son to Edmund Darrow.

March 1st, Theodore, son to Walter Bulkley.

March 29th, Charles Mansfield, son to George Nichols.

April 27th, Elizabeth, daughter to Moses Jarvis.

April 28th, son to ——— Sample.

May 21st, Bithinia, daughter to Curtis Blakeman; Henry Mead, son to Mudson Hinman.

May 24th, Elizabeth Dimon, daughter to Jesse Banks; Sireno Edwards, son to Abel Ogden.

June 14th, Sophronia, daughter to William Robertson.

June 21st, Maria, daughter to Bradley Middlebrook.

July 12th, Rebecca Jinnings, daughter to Charles Sherwood.

July 26th, Saphina, daughter to Samuel Beers.

September 11th, Betsey Balton, adult.

October 11th, Henry Kent, son to Moss R. Botsford.

October 18th, Edward, son to Stephen Osbourn.

October 28th, Grace, daughter to Silas and Avis Judsen.

November 20th, Joseph, son to John French.

December 13th, Mary Elizabeth, daughter to Shelden Smith.

1819.

January 6th, son to William Goodsel.

February 14th, Mary, daughter to ——— Cromline, at Cold Springs.

May 23rd, Luther Wood, adult; Charles Frederic, Luvinia Stone, children of L. Wood; Eliza Amelia, daughter to William Warden; Charles Lyman, son to ——— Person; George Huntington, son to Charles Nichols; Harriot Eliza, daughter to Star Peck.

June 6th, Peter, son to Ezra Burr, Fairfield; Alexander Rowland, son to William Robertson; Frederick Augustus, son to Wakeman Davis.

1819.

June 28th, Fanny, daughter to James Lyon, Greenfield.

July 10th, Emeline, daughter to James Perry; Susan, daughter to the same.

July 11th, George August, son to Richard Hyde; William Henry, son to Stebens Smith; Harriet Jones, daughter to Benjamin Brooks.

July 18th, Frederick, son to Ward Bulkley.

August 8th, William, son to Joseph Bears.

September 5th, Eliza, daughter to Baker Cook; Horatio Ross, son to John Cook; Pamela Louisa, daughter to George Cook; George Smith, son to George Cook.

September 6th, Sarah Ann Sylliman, daughter to Adad Bulkley.

September 12th, James Clifford, son to James Allen.

September 29th, Rhenanice, David Seely, and Harriot, children to Widow Charity Patchen.

October 17th, Cornelia Ann, daughter to Hull Sherwood.

October 31st, Catherine Rogers, daughter to Joseph Banks.

November 21st, Frederick, son to Edmund Darrow.

December 5th, Mary Middlebrooks, Betsey Porter, adults.

December 29th, Alvord Edwards, Henry Beardsley, sons of David Hubble, Jr.

1820.

January 16th, Mary Ann, daughter to John S. Cook.

January 26th, Andrew, son to Abel Beers; William Clarke, son to William Bulkley; Abel, son to Abel Ogden; Aaron Burr, Samuel, sons of Hezekiah Bradley.

March 5th, Sylvester, son to William Robertson.

March 18th, Daniel Porter, son to William Cable; Susan, daughter to the above Cable.

March 22nd, Mary Ann, daughter to Samuel Hawley.

April 1st, Emeline Burr, daughter to Jesup Banks.

April 23rd, Mary Burr, daughter to Charles Sherwood; Charles, son to Bradley Middlebrooks; Harvey Page, Emeline, children of ——— Persons.

May 7th, Mary Jerusia, daughter to Jane Banks.

June 23rd, Francis, son to Timothy Williams.

July 2nd, Charles Augustus, son to Samuel Kirtland; Susan Maria, daughter to Epinetus Curtis.

July 30th, Walter Bulkley's son by the name of Horatio.

August 6th, Hester, daughter to Francis Bulkley; Benjamin Sherman, son to Benjamin Brooks.

August 20th, Catherine Bulkley, adult; Elizabeth Bulkley, adult.

September 17th, Elizabeth, daughter to Munson Hinman; Henry Thomas, son to Thomas Longworth; William Frederick, son to Wright.

September 24th, Nelson Street, son to Nash Street, in Norwalk Church.

October 1st, Joseph, son to Joseph Perry; William Newell, Mary Ann, Sophia Hart, Martha Maria, Emela, Munson, Franklin, and James Clifford, children of Capt. Leut Munson Hitchcock.

November 1st, Elizabeth Marian, Henry Davis, Timothy Benham, Lucy Ann, children of Timothy Booth.

November 16th, Sarah, daughter to William Patch.

November 26th, John Robert, son to Charles Bostwick.

December 9th, Betsey Amelia, daughter to Sarah Lacey; George, son to Elijah Nichols.

December 16th, Emeline, daughter to John French.

1821.

February 11th, Harriet Salina, daughter to Pinkney Jones.

March 11th, Lucretia, daughter to C. Walter Sherwood; Caroline Matilda, daughter to Henry Young.

March 16th, Cordelia, daughter to Jesup Banks.

April 11th, Charlotte, Caroline, Martha, children of Levi Downs.

April 20th, Caroline Silliman, daughter to Js. Bulkley.

May 25th, Elizabeth Frances Seeley, William Peabody, adults: Charles Albert, John, Augustus, Frederick, children of William Peabody.

June 3rd, Elizabeth Frances, daughter to Nathan Tisdale.

June 17th, Elizabeth Abigail, daughter to Joseph Brooks.

July 24th, Andrew Bulkley, son to Samuel Bears.

August 19th, Hannah Maria, daughter to James Allen.

August 25th, Adaline, daughter to Sally Hawkins.

September 9th, Charles Baldwin, son to Rosil S. Nichols.

September 16th, Peter, son to Francis Bulkley; Amelia Antoinette, daughter to William Robertson; John Henry, son to Walter Bulkley.

October 1st, Frances Matilda, daughter to Benjamin Brooks.

October 16th, William Sims, son of Abraham Woolsey.

November 18th, Catherine Ann, daughter to William Cannon; Cornelia, daughter to Wakeman Davis; Harriet Taylor, daughter to Daniel Foot.

November 26th, Sarah Ann, daughter to James Allen, the 3rd.

December 5th, Francis Edgar, son to William Warden.

December 20th, Uriah, David, sons of David Burr, Greenfield.

1822.

January 27th, Emeline, daughter to Joseph Brothwell; William, son to Edmund Darrow; Andrew, son to Ward Bulkley.

March 3rd, Abel, son to Capt. Abel Beers.

March 31st, Samuel, son to Capt. Lent Hitchcock.

April 25th, Sarah Mason, an adult; Edgar, son to Sheldon Smith; Catherine Maria, daughter to William Wright.

April 26th, Sarah Ann, daughter to Bradley Middlebrooks; Edgar, son to ——— Mason; Martha Maria, daughter to ——— Persons.

June 23rd, Harriet, daughter to Charles Sherwood.

June 30th, John Austin, son to William and Susan Crocker.
July 4th, George and Emeline, children of Joseph Crofut,
of Danbury.

July 19th, John Stebens, son to Stebens Smith.

July 28th, Sarah Ann, daughter to Samuel Sturges.

September 22nd, Alice, daughter to Andrew Winton;
Mary, Lois Ann, Susan, Hezekiah, Sarah Winton, children of
James Lyon; Delia Maria, daughter to Jeremiah Sherwood;
Francis Bradley, son to Abraham Banks; Elizabeth, daughter
to Anson Wheeler.

1823.

February 1st, Harriet, Russel, children of Capt. Matthew
Curtis.

March 9th, Alonzo Jackson, son to William Robertson.

April 6th, Caroline Burr, daughter to Hull Sherwood;
Maria, daughter to Philo N. Shelton.

May 4th, Julia Maria, daughter to Thaniel P. Beers.

May 16th, Charles David, son of Rev. Henry Judah.

May 18th, daughter of Joseph Bulkley; Ruth Rebecca,
daughter to Samuel Furgerson.

May 25th, Catherine Maria, daughter to Henry Peet; Sarah
Elizabeth Ann, daughter to James Clifford; Mary Ann,
daughter to Henry Young; Julia Hull, daughter to Jesse
Banks.

August 17th, Sophia Augusta, daughter to Dr. Nathan
Tisdale; Livinia Blakeman, daughter to Munson Hinman.

August 24th, Maria Louisa, daughter to Benjamin Brooks.

September 14th, Theodosius, son to James Allen, the 3rd.

September the 21st, Mary Ann Farmer, daughter to William
Bulkley.

December 5th, Daniel Alexander, son to Daniel Clifford.

1824.

January 12th, Moses Dimon, son to Walter Treadwell;
Lloyd Wakeman, son to Hanford Nichols.

January 14th, Daniel, son to Hill Meeker.

March 14th, Richard Henry, son to Richard Hyde; Francis Henry, son to James Allen, 2nd.

March 28, Mary Ann, daughter to William Warden.

April 4th, Minerva, daughter to Edmund Darrow; William Robertson, son to Wakeman Davis; Walter, son to Walter Bulkley.

April 18th, Caroline Burr, adult.

July 18th, William, son to Capt. Abel Beers.

September 11th, John Robertson, son to Benjamin Sherwood; Richard and Robert, sons of Peter Johnson.

October 3rd, Rebecca Hoyt, daughter to Samuel Beers.

November 17th, Margaret Pike, daughter to ——— Perry; Jabez Jinnings, son to Levi Burr; Levi Wakeman, son to ditto.

December 3rd, Elizabeth, daughter to Daniel Ludlow Robertson, Fredericton, New Brunswick; Lucy Nichols, daughter to Joseph P. Shelton, baptized at Westfarms, New York.

1825.

October 16th, Baptized by the Rev. Mr. Burhans; John Henry, son of Hull Sherwood; Henry, son of Wakeman Davis; Maria, daughter of Francis Bulkley.

APPENDIX I.

A LIST OF THOSE I HAVE BURIED.

1786.

March 1st, Hannah Dascomb, old age.

April 25th, Josiah Smith, Sen., old age.

September 7th, Hannah Bangs, a child with worm; the wife of James Knapp, putrid fever.

October 9th, Hezekiah Bulkley, consumption.

1788.

June 28th, Zebulon Walker Kirtland, an infant.

1789.

May 1st, Zachariah Whelar, consumption.

December 11th, Richard Walker Booth, consumption.

1790.

March 1st, Jonathan Bulkley, gout in the stomach.

August 15th, Olive Kirtland, nervous fever.

November 9th, Capt. Peter Whitney, black jaundice.

1791.

November 1st, Old Mrs. Burrough, with old age.

1792.

January 3rd, the wife of Capt. Thomas Holbertson, consumption.

April 28th, Captain Hezekiah Sturges, apoplectic fit.

May 18th, John Sherwood, consumption.

September 2nd, Widow Margaret Lacy, dropsy.

September 24th, Catherine Murrin, nervous fever.

November 10th, Adria Allen, an infant; bladder in the throat.

December 19th, Ned, a Negro; dropsy.

1793.

March 19th, Ellihu Burritt, apoplectic fit.

April 30th, Abigail Sherwood, small pox.

July 14th, Mrs. Nichols, and her infant, Daniel, wife of David Nichols; cancer.

August 5th, Mrs. Sarah Davis, old age; 86 years old.

November 17th, Isabel Hawley, consumption.

December 14th, Eben Davis, of nervous fever.

December 24th, Increase Burr, wenn in the throat.

1794.

January 27th, David Robertson, scarlet fever.

February 28th, Samuel Robertson, lingering complaints.

☞ (Mama) Abigail Shelton, died 22nd of February, 1794, aged 80.

June 27th, William Edward Nichols, an infant; teething.

July 9th, John Robertson, consumption: old man.

August 3rd, Sally Hinman, camp distemper; 18 months old.

August 19th, Charity Burr, dysentery, 28.

August 24th, Rebecca Burr, dysentery, 30; sisters.

August 27th, Josiah Smith, diabetes: 37 years old.

September 13th, Philo Burr, dysentery; 13 years old.

November 2nd, Silas Morehouse, dysentery; 5 years old.

November 5th, Stephen Adams, old age; 86.

1795.

January 3rd, the wife of David Jinnings, 40 years; suddenly.

January 30th, the wife of Jonathan Coley, aged 77; old age.

April 13th, Anna, wife to Peter Bulkley, numb palsy.

April 21st, Anna, wife to William Nichols, in childbed.

May 26th, Elizabeth, wife to Gersham Bulkley, apoplectic fit.

June 7th, Joseph Beers, gravel; 83 years old.

June 23rd, Obediah Whelar, scarlet fever: aged 7 years.

July 4th, Widow Hawley, consumption; 76 years.

August 4th, Prudence Smith, 80 years; suddenly.
 August 21st, Valerins G. Skidmore, 3 years; dysentery.
 August 24th, Naomi Hull, infant; worms.
 September 2nd, Joseph Allen, infant, dysentery.
 September 22nd, Abigail Whelar, dropsy, 61 years.
 October 7th, David Barlow, old age: 76 years.
 November 2nd, Jesse Platt, epileptic fit; 34 years.
 November 10th, Polly, wife to Lazarus Beach, in childbed;
 35 years.
 December 20th, Rowland Roberts, an infant; whooping
 cough.

1796.

January 26th, Sarah Forgin, apoplectic fit, 72 years old.
 February 4th, Sarah Ballow, infant.
 February 5th, Hannah Wing, dropsy; 30 years.
 March 1st, Joseph Bulkley, consumption, 50 years.
 March 14th, Elizabeth, wife to Thomas L. Collier, con-
 sumption.
 March 27th, Mary Darling, 5 years old; worms.
 September 10th, Shelton Edwards, 15 years old; murdered.
 October 24th, Mary Mills, 55 years; slow fever.
 December 11th, William Hinman, infant.
 December 25th, Nathan Foot, dropsy; 77 years old. Mary
 Wheeler, 84 years old.

1797.

February 9th, Susannah Burr, 4 years; dropsy in the head.
 February 15th, Susannah Burr, mother to the above, aged
 25; consumption.
 March 1st, Sarah Seeley, consumption, 20 years.
 March 6th, Nancy Bulkley, epileptic fit; 8 years.
 April 20th, Mary Vero, 78 years old; suddenly. An infant
 of David Beers, unbaptized.
 May 14th, Lois Burr, in childbed sickness; 21 years.
 June 10th, Daniel Bulkley, dropsy, 78 years.
 July 8th, Ebenezer Allen, 11 years; accidental death.

December 12th, William Holbertson, with a scirrhus liver: 57 years old.

December 21st, Hepsa Seeley, consumption; 19 years old.

1798.

January 3rd, Widow Wheeler, old age; 73 years old.

January 12th, James Knapp, plurisey; 57 years old.

February 1st, Eunice Bulkley, epilectic fit; 22 years.

May 1st, Levi Jinnings, an infant, 1½ year old: consumption.

June 20th, Sarah, wife to Phillip Bennett, childbed, 43 years.

July 3rd, Nathaniel Perry, old age; 80 years old.

July 6th, Elizabeth Beers, aged 84.

August 2nd, George Hinman, an infant: inflammation of the bowels.

August 14th, Joseph Fairweather, an infant; ditto.

September 2nd, Michael Seeley, consumption; 60 years.

November 5th, Ruel Thorp, consumption, 60 years.

November 7th, Mercy Ells, mumps; 5 months old.

November 14th, a child of Philo Lyon, unbaptized.

November 3th, an infant of Lazarus Beach.

December 6th, Jesse Young, consumption; 25 years old.

1799.

February 13th, Wolcott Patchen, Plurisey; 39 years.

February 24th, Rebecca Cable, apoplectic fit; 80 years.

March 22nd, Widow Thorp, apoplectic; 83 years.

March 29th, Lucy Sherwood, canker; 4 years old.

April 3rd, Eunice Young, an infant.

September 7th, Thadeus Benedict, Esq., dropsy; 50 years.

The wife of Thomas, a Negro.

December 28th, Ezra Kirtland, epileptic fit; 46 years.

1800.

January 13th, Ebenezer Bulkley, 7 years old: suddenly.

January 20th, a child of Miles Greenfield, burned; 3 years.

February 11th, Anna Cascomb, in a fit; 64 years.

March 11th, Tabatha Waklee, burned to death; 91 years.

May 14th, Penniah Thomson, consumption, 19 years.

June 23rd, Nathaniel Porter, mortification in the bowels, from a sudden cold: 13 years old.

June 24th, Ephriam Nichols, mortification in the bowels, from eating currants, suddenly, 10 years old.

July 12th, Clarissa Allen Meeker, 5 years: complaint, worms.

August 11th, Mary Ann Mynott, camp distemper; about 86 years old.

August 23rd, Ezra Kirtland, numb palsy, years of age 70.

September 5th, Sarah Seeley, consumption; 59 years old.

September 8th, Aaron Hopson, nervous fever; 60 years.

October 6th, Ward William Hill, 66 years.

October 8th, John Young, consumption; 8 years old.

1801.

January 4th, Epaphras Goodsel, apoplectic fit: 58 years.

February 19th, Sarah, wife to Isaac Seeley, consumption: 20 years.

February 25th, Benom Dimon, gravel: aged 75 years.

May 11th, Mary Lyon, Plurisey: 80 years old.

May 19th, Robert Jinnings, apoplectic fit: 42 years.

June 1st, Ebenezer Wakeman, consumption: 52 years.

October 13th, Elizabeth Clayford, 14 months old: whooping cough.

December 2nd, Lucy Sellers, consumption: 23 years old.

December 30th, Lois Gilbert, 73 years: cancerous in arm and breast.

1802.

January 5th, Josiah S. Hoyt, 1 year, 9 months: inflammation of the bowels.

June 8th, Martha Hall, 85 years old.

April 3rd, James McKensey, aged 30.

July 27th, Clara Godfrey, consumption: age 36.

September 10th, Samuel Sherwood, aged 69.

1803.

January 3rd, Zebulon Kirtland, aged 47: consumption.

February 13th, Mary French, wife of James French: Daniel Young, aged 54; lingering complaint.

February 18th, David Seeley, aged 9 years: dropsy in the brain.

February 20th, Samuel Osborn, aged 45: hemorrhage.

March 22nd, George Hinman, 6 months old; dropsy in the brain.

April 23rd, Samuel Baker, aged 85; cramp in the stomach.

May 3rd, Samuel Cable, an infant, 6 months old: rickets.

September 6th, Charles Edwin Godfrey, 6 years, 2 months; lingering complaint.

September 8th, Huldah Dascomb, consumption.

September 24th, Olive Kirtland, lingering complaint: age 68.

November 24th, Elizabeth Seeley, dropsy: 62.

1804.

February 13th, Esther Parott, 3 years old: worms.

February 15th, Comfort Strong, plurisey: 65 years.

February 22nd, Phyllis, Negro girl, 17 years: plurisey.

March 24th, Anna Burr, aged 35: consumption.

April 13, Abigail Beers, an infant.

May 6th, James Hoyt, aged 38: affection of the lungs.

May 11th, Seth Sturges, aged 68: pneumonia.

July 5th, the wife of James James, Norwalk: consumption. Peter Bulkley, aged 87.

August 15th, Polly Hubble, wife of Ezra Hubble, childbed sickness: aged 29.

September 1st, Isaac Lewis, aged 70; lingering complaint.

October 15th, Sarah Glover, aged 57: consumption.

November 5th, Frances Ann Hawley, aged 3 years: dropsy in the head. Sarah Strong, aged 33 years, consumption.

November 26th, Sarah Jackson, aged 15 years: billious fever.

November 28th, Munson Bangs, 9 years old: collic.

December, 6th, Bethia Sturges, aged 70: consumption.

1805.

- January 13th, Sarah Burritt, aged 62; lingering complaint.
February 22nd, Burr Robertson, infant; fits.
February 28th, Caleb Norman, 87 years old.
May 17th, Gorden Seymour Marquand, 3 years.
May 19th, Benjamin Banks, aged 102.
July 1st, Harvey Sherman, an infant.
July 8th, Henry Elijah Hawley, an infant.
July 14th, Thomas Treadwell, 68 years old, dropsy.
July 27th, Susan Blackman, 3 years old: whooping cough.
July 30th, Susan Ketchum, 63 years old: gout in stomach.
August 14th, Sally Wheeler, 13 years old: billious fever.
September 8th, Maria Fairweather, 1 year old; worms.
September 17th, Elizabeth Bulkley, aged 62 years; lingering complaint.
September 20th, William Hubble, aged 60; collic.
October 1st, Rebecca Burroughs, aged 6 years: scarlet fever.
December 5th, Nehemiah Buddington, aged 70; lingering complaint; Frances Ann Hinman, 8 months old.

1806.

- January 7th, Reuaimah Bradley, aged 79.
April 2nd, William Pike, aged 65: suddenly.
April 10th, Sidney Sturges, aged 7: worms.
July 23rd, Reuben Beers, aged 66: inebriation.
October 10th, Sally Godfrey, aged 15 years; billious fever.
November 6th, Samuel Cable, aged 73 years; felon.
November 22nd, Rebecca Wheeler, aged 67 years; billious fever.

1807.

- January 1st, David Bears, aged 7: lingering complaint.
January 31st, Ann Stilson, aged 61: in fits.
May 5th, Sarah Guyer, aged 88 years.
May 13th, Nathaniel Sherwood, aged 20; Nichols Lacey, 11 years old, both drowned and buried together.

May 14th, Philo Nichols, Esq., 80 years old.
 May 20th, Sarah Hoyt, aged 74; lingering complaint.
 June 17th, Phillys, wife to Quam, apoplectic fit.
 July 15th, James Beach, aged 28 years: consumption.
 July 23rd, Jane, black woman: aged 58 years.
 September 1st, Samuel Darling, consumption, aged 53.

1808.

January 13th, an infant of William Barritts; Amy Sherman, plurisey; aged 50.

January 19th, Charity Hinman, consumption; aged 40.
 January 29th, Hellen French, infant.
 March 16th, Amarilla Nichols, infant.
 March 21st, Samuel Brinsmade, chronical; aged 58.
 May 10th, David Beers, aged 91 years.
 May 20th, William Burr, aged 33 years: consumption.
 September 2nd, William Bulkley, yellow fever; aged 40.
 November 11th, Lewis Cannon, apoplectic fit, aged 4 years;

Norwalk.

1809.

February 21st, Edri Allen, cancer; 74 years old.
 February 24th, Dimon Bears, an infant.
 March 25th, Benjamin Meeker, 75 years; plurisey.
 July 13th, Elizabeth Goodsel, 65 years; lingering complaint.
 October 11th, Jerusia Tongue, 80 years; cancer.
 December 19th, an infant of Curtis Blackman.
 December 25th, Hezekiah Wheeler, aged 78.

1810.

March 5th, Polly Stone, consumption; aged 57.
 March 8th, Nehemiah Allen, aged 81 years.
 March 15th, Jonathan Coley, aged 93 years.
 March 17th, Mrs. Bouton, aged 76 years.
 April 5th, Theodore Allen, infant.
 April 15th, George Mills, infant; whooping cough.
 May 1st, Rebecca Nichols, old age; 86 years.
 June 3rd, Caroline Blackman, aged 6 years; hiccough.

August 11th, Eben Nichols, aged 68 years; consumption.

August 23rd, David Sherman, 53 years old; chronical complaint.

October 25th, Hebsebah Burr, aged 78 years.

November 4th, Jonathan Smith, aged 73 years; fit.

November 11th, Mary Sturges, aged 72; cancer.

December 7th, Jenny, a black woman, 23 years; consumption.

December 10th, Beulah Smith, aged 70 years.

1811.

January 2nd, Widow Sprague, aged 82 years.

January 4th, Elijah Daniel Shelton, typhus fever, 37 years.

March 21st Seth Sturges, 45 years; plurisey.

April 9th, Hannah Downs, 70; plurisey.

May 10th, Mary Nichols, aged 77 years; billious.

May 30th, Clarine Meeker, aged 2 years; rickets.

July 18th, David Sherwood, 48 years old; scirrhus liver.

July 29th, Frederic Wakeman, 2 years old; canker.

August 11th, Elizabeth Peet, aged 6 days. Mary Bears, aged 55 years, consumption.

September 19th, James Beaty, aged 86 years.

October 12th, Mr. Samuel Fitch, of Wilton, aged 85 years.

November 18th, Hannah Street, suddenly, aged 23 years; Norwalk.

December 6th, Job Lockwood, suddenly; inflammation on the brain, Norfield, aged 47 years.

December 26th, Lucy Smith, aged 80 years; plurisey.

1812.

January 21st, Seth Seeley, aged 78 years; consumption.

March 19th, Lydia Squire, aged 76 years.

March 30th, an infant.

March 31st, Lucy Bulkley, aged 8 years; dropsy in the head.

April 3rd, Horace Gregory, aged 20 months.

May 11th, Ann Mary Goodwin, aged 5 years, dropsy in the head.

May 20th, Mary Lake, aged near 70 years, numb palsy.

June 9th, Hannah, of color, consumption ; 18 years old.

July 10th, Elizabeth Huntington Nichols, 3 years old ; dropsy in the head.

August 7th, Timothy Hubble, aged 80 ; apoplectic fit.

August 11th, Elnathan Seeley, aged 70 ; Rheumatism.

September 9th, Marinda Nichols, 2 years old ; dysentery.

September 23rd, Mahitable Shelton, aged 71 years.

November 30th, Elijah Blackman, 67 years old ; found dead in his bed.

December 29th, Eliakins Walker, aged 73 years ; nervous fever.

December 31st, Nathaniel Tredwell, aged 40 ; pulmonic complaint.

1813.

January 7th, Moses Hull, aged 60 ; plurissey.

January 28th, Avis Baldwin, aged 67 years ; apoplectic fit.

January 31st, David Nichols, aged 67 years ; spotted fever.

February 2nd, Mrs. Goodwin, Trumbull, consumption ; 58.

March 2nd, Nabby Robertson, consumption ; aged 46 years

March 4th, an infant of Ephriam Knapp, 10 months old.

June 7th, Jonathan Bears, aged 54 years ; epidemic.

June 12th, Aaron Bears, aged 54 years ; epidemic.

July 24th, Larissa Edwards, aged 77 ; billious complaint.

August 18th, Abigail Miller, aged 30 years ; consumption.

August 21st, Phœbe Peet, wife of Silas Peet, aged 48 ; consumption.

September 2nd, Samuel Bears, aged 69 years ; Scirrhus liver.

October 1st, Sarah Bears, aged 44 years ; consumption.

October 7th, Abigail Whitear, 72 years ; lingering complaint.

October 8th, William Judd, aged 3 years ; dysentary.

October 11, Nichols, aged 35, dysentery; an infant of Samuel Wakeman, dysentery.

October 19th, Rowland Robertson, 17 years old; swelling throat.

December 5th, John Porter, aged 48 years; apoplectic fit.

December 9th, Jesse Burr, aged 58 years; consumption.

December 13th, Samuel Dimon, aged 50 years; consumption.

1814.

February 19th, Aaron B. Bradley, sore leg; 45 years.

March 19th, Sarah Wakeman, aged 74 years.

June 3rd, Sarah Ann Brewster, aged 18 months; the croop.

August 24th, Aaron Burr, aged 57 years; fits, epileptic.

September 16th, Jane Roe, 90 years of age.

September 26th, Horatio Tisdale, typhus fever; aged 27 years.

1815.

March 6th, Hester Wills, aged 95 years.

March 16th, Roman, a man of color; aged 75 years.

April 9th, Jane Hanford, consumption; aged 46 years.

May 28th, Sarah Burritt, typhus fever, aged 44 years.

June 14th, Abigail Burr, Weston; aged 74 years.

June 21st, Julia Jackson, lockjaw; aged 11 years.

September 4th, Catherine Nichols, wife to R. Nichols; 47 years.

September 13th, Abigail Beers, aged 90 years; Fairfield.

September 15th, Adeline Hubble, aged 7 years, dropsy in the head.

October 13th, Elijah Hawley, dysentery; aged 78 years.

October 26th, Harvey Page, consumption; aged 32 years.

October 30th, Jane Bartram, influenza; aged 18 months.

November 1st, Maria Middlebrook, aged 18 months, dysentery.

November 2nd William Middlebrook, aged 6 years; dysentery.

November 12th, Jane Bulkley, aged 76 years.

1816.

January 1st, Ann Keeler, aged 63 years ; influenza.

March 28th, Susan Blake, one year and 8 months old ; fits.

April 4th, Joseph S. Edwards, 40 years ; consumption.

April 10th, Ruth Nichols, aged 13 years ; disorder in the head.

June 17th, Horace Sherwood, 5 years old ; drowned.

June 27th, Mrs. ——— Langford, aged 65 years ; in a fit.

July 3rd, Charity Mills, aged 34 ; childbed sickness.

July 8th, Sarah Sherwood, aged 87 : old age.

August 31st, Charles Babbet, aged 4 years ; burned to death.

August 17th, Sarah Sherwood, aged 45 ; derangement of the mind.

November 11th, Willis Sherwood, aged 30 years : dropsy in the head.

December 12th, Toby Adanna, black man : aged 77 years.

December 18th, Daniel Meeker, apoplectic fit : 69 years old.

1817.

January 7th, Isaac Hinman, a scirrhus stomach ; aged 54 years.

March 6th, Hannah Bulkley, aged 77 years ; fits of numb palsy.

April 11th, Penniah Brinsmade, aged 70 ; influenza.

May 8th, John Barnham Beach, aged 3 years old ; croup.

June 26th, Samuel Cable, aged 50 years ; drowned in the harbor of Bridgeport.

July 27th, Mary Ann Sturges, aged 4 years, dropsy in the head.

August 14th, Louisa Grant, black child, 10 months old ; died in a fit.

August 15th, Sam, a man of color, aged 73 years ; dropsy.

August 19th, Abijah Mansfield, consumption ; aged 54 years.

August 30th, Polly Meeker, consumption ; aged 26 years.
Joseph Bulkley, an infant, one day old.

1818.

February 2nd, Joshua Jinnings, aged 90 years.
February 17th, Comfort Burritt, aged 39 years.
March 9th, Charity Bradley, 26 years old ; consumption.
April 4th, Caroline Bulkley, aged 5 years ; inflammation of the bowels.
April 16th, John Scovil, aged 9 years old ; dropsy in the head. Rosannah Seely, consumption, woman of color ; aged 28 years.
June 2nd, Samuel Sampler, an infant one year old.
July 19th, Samuel Allen, aged 35 years, the effects of a fit.
August 1st, Ichabod Burr, aged 82 years ; old age.
August 28th, James B. Minot, aged 20 years ; typhus fever.
September 11th, Betsey Balton, aged 24 years ; typhus fever.
September 19th, an infant of Henry Bolston, 4 months old.
September 26th, Abigail Robertson, aged 76 years ; old age.
September 30th, an infant of David Nichols.
November 16th, Hezekiah Bradley, aged 83 years old.
November 22nd, Joseph French, infant ; the croup.
December 4th, Hannah Paun, indian, sickness ; 47 years old.

1819.

January 1st, Rebecca Jinnings Sherwood, an infant.
January 7th, Samuel Goodsell, infant, 3 days old ; with the croup.
January 10th, Jerusia Middlebrook, aged 43 years ; typhus fever.
January 28th, Amelia Dickerson, aged 28 ; ulcerated lungs.
February 3rd, Lydia Patch, lingering complaint ; aged 28.
February 14th, Christopher Kibbee Allicoke, aged 68 years.
February 21st, Eliza Fairweather, aged 13 years ; dropsy.

June 23rd, Nathaniel Jennings, aged 67 years; typhus fever.

June 28th, Abigail Thorp, king evil; aged 19 years.

June 29th, Toney, a man of color, dropsy; aged 35 years.

July 3rd, Fanny Lyon, aged 18 years; typhus fever.

September 20th, Samuel Smith, aged $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, of kick of a horse, by which the skull was broken.

September 29th, Ebenezer Sherman, aged 67 years.

October 22nd, Rachel Osbourn, aged 35 years; typhus fever.

October 24th, Augusta Hoyt, aged 19 years; typhus fever.

October 29th, Samuel Wheeler, aged 59 years; typhus fever.

1820.

March 1st, Phyllis Burroughs, a woman of color; aged 80. Daniel Porter Cable, aged 4 years; dropsy in the head.

May 12th, Darins Fulsom, aged 77 years; old age.

May 18th, Eunice Pendleton, aged 60 years; consumption.

June 20th, Sylvester Robertson, an infant, 9 months old; inflammation of the brain.

September 4th, Sarah Burr, aged 81 years old; pneumonia.

September 16th, James Fairweather, aged 46 years; typhus fever.

September 26th, Nehemiah Allen, typhus fever; 34 years.

September 29th, Thomas Elwood, dysentery; aged 67 years.

September 30th, Jabez Jinnings, typhus fever; aged 26 years.

October 3rd, Hannah Morehouse, aged 79 years.

October 6th, David Barlow, numb palsy; 59 years old.

October 8th, Grace Robbins, typhus fever; aged 52 years.

October 24th, Susan Cable, aged 16 months; teething.

November 1st, Amelia Robbins, typhus fever; aged 23 years.

December 13th, Eunice Wakeman, aged 74 years; apoplectic fit.

December 31st, Ebenezer Booth, aged 48 years ; typhus fever.

1821.

January 15th, Wheeler Sherman, Esq., aged 46 years ; pulmonic complaint.

February 15th, John Peet, aged 67 years : pulmonic complaint.

April 5th, Sarah L. Nichols, aged 32 ; consumption.

May 23rd, Peter Oakley, consumption ; 22 years.

July 9th, Jane Green, consumption : aged 27 years.

July 18th, Eliphalet Hill, broken thigh : 94 years old.

August 29th, Ann Hollins, colic : aged 76 years.

September 25, Fanny Andrews, childbed sickness : 23 years old.

October 5th, an infant son of the above.

October 15th, Elihu Bulkley, yellow fever ; 17 years old.

October 30th, Johathan Mallory, the gravel ; 77 years old.

1822.

January 22nd, Benjamin Robertson, consumption ; aged 24 years.

February 22nd, Ann Mallory, inflammation of the lungs : 76 years.

March 5th, Sarah Clark, dropsy ; aged 37 years.

April 1st, Samuel Hitchcock, an infant 3 days old ; fits.

April 12th, Sarah Whitmore, aged 64 years ; pulmonic complaint.

April 28th, Lawrence Burril, infant, 2 months old ; fits.

June 2nd, Presilla Robbins, aged 27 years ; fever.

July 1st, Josiah Master, aged 58 years ; paralectic fits.

July 8th, Edgar Hubbell, aged 3 weeks ; whooping cough.

August 12th, Betsey Page, aged 11 years ; with ulcers.

August 29th, Eliphalet Sheffield, aged 33 years ; pulmonic complaint.

September 4th, Daniel Wheelar ; aged 77 years ; numb palsy.

September 5th, Mary Nieolelinch, aged 10 months; convulsions, fits.

September 9th, Thomas Holbertson, aged 83 years; diarcast.

September 11th, an infant 4 months old, Samuel Peet's. Thomas Green, 33 years old; typhus fever.

September 25th, Dr. Hargaer, 30 years of age; billious fever.

October 14th, Abigail O. Banks, aged 59 years; typhus fever.

October 21st, Frances Matilda Benjamin, aged 16 months.

October 24th, Ebenezer Sherman, aged 70 years: apoplectic fit.

December 15th, Henry Burr, aged 32 years: typhus fever.

December 27th, Ann Bradley, aged 84 years.

1823.

January 19th, Elizabeth T. Seeley, 39 years; typhus fever.

February 15th, Sarah Sturges, aged 45 years: consumption.

March 24th, Munson Turney, aged 12 years; fits.

May 7th, Harriot Lewis Dimon, aged 3 years; burned, by getting her clothes on fire.

June 7th, Persilla Beers, aged 7 years; dropsy in the head.

July 18th, William Robertson, aged 31 years; consumption.

September 6th, Delia Booth, aged 17 years, typhus fever.

October 7th, Mrs. Epinetus Curtis, aged 27 years: consumption.

October 22nd, Emeline French, aged 3 years; croup.

October 23rd, Joseph Nichols, aged 42 years: consumption.

October 29th, Henry Nichols Clark, aged 15 years, typhus fever.

October 14th, Theodosius Allen, 3 months old: consumption.

November 6th, Sophia Augusta Tisdale, 14 months old; consumption.

December 6th, Epinetus Curtis, 38 years old: typhus fever.

December 18th, Ephriam Robbins, aged 84 years old ; apoplectic fit.

December 19th, Hannah Brooks, aged 41 years ; pulmonic complaint.

December 22, Benand French, aged 85 years ; old age.

December 26th, Ansel Trubee, aged 78 years : apoplectic fit.
1824.

April 1st, Salina Tredwell, aged 28 years old ; suicide melancholy.

May 11th, Mahitable, Beers, aged 71 years.

July 4th, Benjamin Sherwood, aged 64 ; drowned in a well.

August 31st, Sarah Nichols, aged 82 years ; old age.

September 16th, Mabel Hopkins, aged 53 years ; suddenly.

September 20th, Mary D. Beers ; aged 14 years ; consumption. John Robertson Sherwood, infant.

October 12th, Francis Edgar Warden, 4 years old.

October 10th, Betsey Bulkley, aged 74 years.

APPENDIX I.

A LIST OF THE BANS OF MARRIAGE.

1785.

November 24th, Barack Taylor to Abigail Jackson; William Peet to Jemimiah Darrow; John Porter to Lucy Whelar.

1787.

January 1st, Lyman Meeker to Rebecca Taylor.
February 26th, Ebenezer Mills, Jr., to Lois Bates.
July 23rd, Calvin Whelar, Jr., to Hannah Banns; Daniel Coley to Olive Cable.
November 22nd, Philemon Sherwood to Hephsebah Burr.
December 17th, Samuel Sanford to Rheuamah Wheeler.

1788.

January 28th, Robert Lyon to Rebecca Hubble.
March 4th, John Lester to Arner Shelton.
September 11th, Samuel Penfield to Hannah Hoyt.
September 20th, John Perry to Lois Whelar.
October 1st, Job Perry to Sarah Sturges.

1789.

September 20th, David Bears to Mary Grey.
November 1st, David Barlow to Lucy Sherwood.

1790.

June 6th, Thadeus Gilbert to Huldah Whelar; John Jackson, Jr., to Jemimah Seely.
November 14th, Rev. Abraham L. Clarke to Sally Nichols.

1791.

January 23rd, Daniel Lyon to Mable Grey.
February 6th, John Samuel Cannon to Hannah Nichols.
March 31st, Stephen Whelar to Persena Hendrive.
October 2nd, Ebenezer Wakeley Bulkley to Hannah Davis.
November 7th, George Hoyt to Deborah Sturges.
November 24th, Stephen Lyon to Cloey Jackson.

1792.

January 25th, Jacob Grey to Susan Thorp.
May 24th, Ebenezer Gould to Eleanor Whelar.
September 2nd, Ephriam Robbins to Grace Whitney.

1794.

January 27th, Asa Chambers to Elizabeth Clayford.
May 3rd, Samuel Dimon to Sarah Sherwood.
August 4th, Lyman Whitney to Mable Whelar.

1795.

February 21st, David Nichols to Eunice Gilbert.
April 1st, Samuel Stephens to Anna Polly Creha Gillet.
April 9th, Jesse Dimon to Bethiah Marquand.
October 13th, Ebenezer Booth to Comfort Smith.
November 15th, Thomas Holbertson to Bathshebah Peet.
December 24th, Peter Underhill to Adria Allen.

1796.

February 14th, Andrew Winton Thorp to Susannah Thorp.
March 27th, Ezra Knap to Eunice Trubee.
April 18th, Amos Burr to Abby Shelton.
July 2nd, William Parrott to Ruth Allen.
July 3rd, Baley Foot to Jerusiah Glover.
October 24th, Ephriam Whelar Sherman to Anna Burritt.
November 6th, Joel Goodsel to Polly Kirtland.

1797.

March 5th, Stephen Summers to Betsey Young.
March 16th, James Fairweather to Mercy Burritt.
April 9th, Gersham Bulkley to Hannah Platt.
April 29th, Seth Wakeman to Sarah Bennett.

July 9th, John Patchen to Esther Bulkley.
 August 19th, Lazarus Beach to Polly Hall.
 September 10th, Jacob White to Polly Burr.
 October 15th, Zalmon Pullen to Molly Olmstead.
 November 16th, Nathaniel Eils to Hannah Penfield.
 December 17th, Thomas L. Colyer to Catherine Hawley.
 December 31st, Augustus Pulling to Molly Williams.

1798.

January 7th, Daniel Manrow to Eunice Downing.
 January 11th, Thomas L. Colyer to Sarah Holms.
 April 10th, Enoch Sanford to Lucy Chancey.
 April 19th, Samuel French to Fanny Holbertson; David
 Mynott to Sarah Smith.

July 5th, Frederick Walthar to Charity French.
 August 12th, Samuel Sturges to Sarah Sherwood.
 September 30th, William Allen to Polly Nichols.
 October 18th, Isaac Seeley to Sarah Nichols.
 October 28th, Isaac Tomlinson to Polly Ann Curtiss.
 November 1st, William Cable to Polly French.
 December 29th, Sterling Sherman to Anna Kirtland.

1799.

January 9th, Beach Tomlinson to Anna Hard.
 February 17th, Abel Bradley to Sybel Wheeler.
 June 2nd, Ezra Porter to Lucy Beach.
 June 16th, Jabez Lockwood to Mary Sanford.
 September 21st, James Leeworthy, to Betsey Whitting.
 December 21st, Joseph Thompson to Peninah Seeley.

1800.

January 12th, Obediah Platt to Elizabeth Hawley.
 March 16th, Noah Grey to Rebecca Nichols.
 April 20th, Elijah Beardsley to Johanna Lyon.
 November 6th, Eliphalet W. Thorp to Abigail Dimon.
 November 22nd, Eleazer Edgerton to Patience Wheeler.

1801.

January 25th, Samuel Hawley to Pheobe Burritt.

September 23rd James Sellers to Lucy Ann Sanford.
November 25th, Levi Summers to Molly Sherman.

1802.

January 1st, William Goodsel to Prudence Nichols.
February 17th, John French to Polly Wheelar.
April 11th, Jonathan Baker to Elizabeth Culver.
April 21st, Israel Blackman to Polly Vaughan.
May 27th, Abijah Wakeman to Polly Bulkley.
June 6th, George Miller to Abigail Wheelar.
October 20th, Samuel Cable, Jr., to Mary French.
October 21st, Elihu Johnson to Polly Sealey.
November 9th, William Con. to Betsey Thorp.
November 9th, Stephen Osborn to Rachel Bulkley.
December 6th, Levi Hubble to Susan Allen.

1803.

September 8th, John Maltbey to Rachel Mason.
December 4th, Abel Nichols to Courance Glover.

1804.

January 4th, Nathan Burr to Sally Burr.
January 8th, Hill Meeker to Charity Sherwood.
February 12th, Joseph S. Edwards to Elizabeth Burroughs.
March 6th, Nathan Perry to Sally French.
March 8th, Daniel Fairweather to Betsey Smith.
April 10th, Rev. Henry Whitlock to Eulalia Bartram.
April 26th, Abijah Shelton to Lydia Kirtland.
May 1st, Silas Shelton to Hannah Burritt.
September 30th, Richard Fernan to Sally Wakeman.
November 4th, Daniel Bryant Glover to Eunice Wilson.
December 30th, William French to Elizabeth Crofut.

1805.

March 7th, John Vaughan to Betsey Burr.
March 17th, Isaac Perry to Prissilla Grey.
April 17th, David Osborn to Rebecca Sturges.
April 28th, Samuel Kirtland to Harriet Bostwick.
July 25th, Hezekiah Bradley to Ann Sherwood.

October 3rd. Samuel Porter to Eleanor Sherman.
October 6th, Jemine Jaynes to Catherine Comestock.
October 13th, Samuel Wakeman to Druscilla Nichols.
October 19th, Ira Peck to Sally Kirtland.
October 27th, Ezra Hawley to Charity Burr.
November 27th, Sellick Bradley to Anna Burr.

1806.

January 5th, John Smith to Frances French.
February 23rd, Seth Wakeman to Clara Nichols.
March 16th, Elijah Burritt to Sarah Fairchild.
March 20th, David Trubee to Charlotte Parrot.
May 1st, Seth Couch to Sally Burr.
September 11th, Timothy Ripley to Betsey Hubble.
September 25th, Jesse Banks to Jerusha Sherwood.
October 26th, Zalmon Wakeman to Claressa Nichols.
November 13th, Joel Sherwood to Abby Hall.
November 25th, Jabez Hill to Sarah Nichols.
November 30th, David Curtiss to Betsey Seeley.

1807.

February 15th, James French to Ann Beardsley.
September 20th, Timothy Baker to Lucretia Burr.
October 19th, Moses Jinnings to Sarah Putnam.
November 8th, Joseph Banks to Sally Sherwood.
November 19th, Jeremiah Sturges to Maria Shelton.
December 15th, Gideon Tomlinson to Sarah Bradley.
December 23rd, Azor Osborn to Sally Sturges.
December 24th, Truman Plumb to Polly Whitney.

1808.

January 3rd, Joseph Strong, Esq., to Comfort Burr.
February 17th, George K. Nichols to Nancy Tomlinson;
Charles T. Nichols to Sarah L. Tomlinson.
April 3rd, Timothy Banks to Eleanor Ogden.
June 5th, Ward Bulkley to Mary Beers.
August 7th, Richard Hyde to Lucy Hinman.

- November 29th, Yale Hough to Polly Hubble.
 December 24th, Abel Beers to Elizabeth Whitney.
 December 31, Abijah Morgan to Charity Cable.

1809.

- January 5th, David Wayland to Ann Sherman.
 February 12th, Nathan Seeley Meeker to Polly Keeler.
 May 3rd, Charles Bostwick to Catherine Peet.
 June 4th, Isaac Hinman to Hannah Moore; Levi Hugg to Eunice Sturges.
 November 16th, Isaac Jinnings to Esther Wakeman.
 November 29th, Daniel B. Ovitt to Mary Roberts.
 December 10th, William Bradley to Ellen Burr.

1810.

- January 15th, David P. Beers to Mary Beers.
 February 28th, Lewis Burr to Marietta Bradley.
 March 18th, Lewis Goodsel to Anna Squire.
 June 17th, Lewis Wakeman to Ester O. Banks.
 August 15th, Walter Nichols to Charity Banks; Joseph Meeker to Rhoda Nichols.
 September 20th, Benjamin S. Smith to Betsey Kirtland.
 December 30th, Jonathan L. Brewster to Clarisa Bradley.

1811.

- January 15th, Henderson Benedict to Abigail B. Meeker.
 June 16th, David Jelliff to Polly Pike.
 October 24th, Caleb Beach to Maria Norman. D. Lewis Nichols to Lina Silliman.
 December 3rd, Eliada Baldwin to Phebe Wing.
 December 22nd, David Newfirth to Lucy Vorse.

1812.

- January 5th, Eli Denslow to Caroline Evis.
 January 12th, William Patch, to Lydia Porter.
 February 25th, Elijah Nichols to Clara Banks.
 March 8th, Joseph Prince Shelton to Johannah Smith Hoyt.
 April 12th, Medad Bradley to Anne Curtis.

April 27th, Joseph Bulkley to Chloe Hubble.
 May 11th, David Roberts to Ann Maria Allen.
 May 27th, Isaac Parrott to Sally Blake.
 September 22nd, Elihu Taylor to Angelina Hall.
 October 22nd, Thomas C. Warden to Nancy Sherwood.
 December 18th, James Bears to Maria Sturges.
 December 31st, Joseph Cable to Priscilla Oysterbanks.

1813.

February 21st, Hezekiah S. Bradley to Amelia Burr.
 March 31st, Edward Blackman to Julia Foot.
 April 18th, William Warden to Lucy Mallory.
 August 15th, Joseph Perry to Abigail Bears.
 September 19th, William Robertson to Jerusia T. Osborn.
 October 4th, James Allen to Harriet Hinman.
 October 5th, Munson Hinman to Priscilla Mead.
 November 7th, Edmund Darrow to Eunice Sherwood.
 November 15th, David Taylor to Mary N. Hubble.
 November 21st, Alpheus Brown to Elizabeth Roberts.
 December 27th, Roswell Wells to Marietta Gould.

1814.

January 30th, Timothy Pettit to Polly Olde.
 May 9th, Jesse Banks to Sally Dimon.
 January 9th, Rossel Lewis to Fanny Lord.
 August 4th, Joseph B. Hall to Caroline Baker.
 November 20th, Primes to Dolly, people of color.
 December 1st, Stephen Hawley to Temperance Wheeler.
 December 18th, Abraham Hubble to Amelia Burr.

1815.

January 1st, Anson Sherman to Priscilla Hoyt.
 March 8th, George Smith to Betsey Stratten.
 May 14th, Samuel Hill to Eunice Nichols.
 Nay 21st, Justus Butlor to Mary Whitmore.
 November 9th, Samuel Bradley Middlebrook to Margaret
 S. Ricker.
 December 21st, Nichols Burr to Edri Allen.

1816.

January 14th, Levi T. Downs to Esther Bulkley.
 January 16th, Elijah Burritt to Sarah McClain.
 January 21st, Levy Burr to Anna Darrow.
 February 18th, Joseph Brooks to Hannah King.
 February 25th, Francis Bulkley to Sally B. Morehouse.
 March 14th, Lyman Hull to Sarah Hill.
 June 16th, Levi Perry to Elizabeth Bangs ; \$3.00.
 September 2nd, Gersham Hubble to Elmira Booth ; \$5.00.
 September 25th, David B. Nichols to Abigail Burr ; \$4.00.
 November 30th, Patrick Keeler to Susan Holbertson.
 December 22nd, Ramson B. Seeley to Polly Seeley.
 December 24th, Walter Bulkley to Betsey Smith.

1817.

April 16th, Ebenezer Jackley to Cloe Clemance.
 May 8th, Charles Sherwood to Lois Burr ; \$10.00.
 May 29th, Robert Wilson to Sally Sherwood ; \$5.00.
 June 26th, Samuel Wilmott to Polly Abinatha ; \$5.00.
 September 2nd, Samuel Sturges to Sally Hoyt ; \$15.00.
 Joseph Hanford to Jane Fowler.

1811.

March 23rd, Andrew Bulkley to Sarah Bears ; \$3.00.
 November 26th, Everet Ames to Abby Dayton ; \$2.00.
 December, 31st, Thomas C. Bigelow to Amelia Mead ; \$2.00.

1818.

March 3rd, Joseph W. Davis to Nabby Robertson ; \$5.00.
 March 15th, Benjamin Bulkley to Rebecca Davis ; \$2.00.
 April 30th, Hull Sherwood to Caroline Burr ; \$5.00.
 May 7th, Jesup Banks to Laura Sherwood ; \$5.12½.
 December 7th, Timothy William to Eleanor Robertson ;
 \$3.00.
 December 23rd, Jesse Studwell to Paulina Beers : \$2.00.

1819.

February 13th, James Nelson to Sally Baxter, at Cold
 Springs ; \$2.00.

February 21st, Joseph Brothwell to Anna Keeler ; \$1.60.
 February 24th, William H. Herbert to Ezra Wager ; \$1.00.
 June 13th, Joel Slater to Pamela Lord ; \$3.00.
 September 2nd, William Wright to Minerva Peet ; \$16.00.
 September 19th, Daniel Foot to Esther Taylor ; \$2 00.
 November 15th, Thomas Longworth to Maria Peet ; \$5.00.

1820.

February 15th, Jesse Burr to Abby O. Banks ; \$1.38.
 March 3rd, Henry Morgan to Eunice Gilbert ; \$2.00.
 April 6th, Woodard M. Todd to Alvira Booth ; \$1.00.
 October 16th, William J. Lane to Pamela Hubble ; \$5.00.
 October 17th, William Cannon to Sally Hinman ; \$10.00.
 December 12th, George Stephenson to Jane Sterling ; \$10.00.

1821.

April 8th, George W. Hubble to Mary Ann Foot ; \$5.00.
 Abel Hawley to Betsey Nichols ; \$3.00.
 October 14th, Samuel B. Ferguson to Sarah H. Parrott,
 \$3.00.
 November 29th, David S. Beach to Mercia DeForest ; \$5.00.

1822.

May 6th, William Sterling to Hannah Hinman ; \$15.00.
 May 20th, Francis P. Allen to Susan Hubble ; \$5.00.
 June 16th, Joseph Bradley to Polly Pann ; \$1.00.
 June 23rd, Samuel Jones to Charlotte Peabody ; \$5.00.
 November 4th, Terah Benedict to Elizabeth Meriam Booth ;
 \$2.20.
 November 26th, Curtis Wildman to Laura Seeley ; \$2.00.

1823.

January 12th, Andrew Trubee to Sarah Turney ; \$3.00.
 January 19th, Jonathan Godfrey to Elizabeth Hubble ;
 \$3.00.
 March 9th, Joseph Mott to Griselda Burr ; \$2.00.
 April 13th, Russel Green to Miranda Dimon ; \$5.00.
 June 29th, Edward Carus to Rebecca Osbourn ; \$2 00.

September 7th, Rufus DeForest to Eunice Turney : \$2.00.

September 14th, Elias Hodge to Ruth Ann Dascomb; \$3.00.

September 28th, Jonathan Sturges to Sarah Hull; \$2.00.

October 19th, Benjamin Sherwood to Sarah Ann Robertson; \$2.00.

December 7th, Hezekiah Hubble to Mary Turney; \$2.00.

1822.

September 5th, Asa B. Beardsley to Flora Tousey; \$4.00.

November 14th, Charles Thorp to Almira Beers; \$5.00.

December 7th, John Clemond to Pamela Coggshill; \$1.00

December 28th, Henry Scott to Susan Hubble; \$3.00.

APPENDIX I.

A LIST OF THE CONFIRMED.

September 22nd, 1785. Stratfield.

Josiah Smith, Sen.,	Amos Beardsley,
Josiah Smith, Jr.,	Samuel Whelar,
Elijah Burritt,	William Peet,
Polly Burritt,	Hepsebah Burr, Sen.,
Lucy Shelton,	Elijah Burr,
Huldah Vandyke,	John Burr,
Ezra Kirtland, Sen.,	Huldah Burr,
Olive Kirtland,	Comfort Burr,
Ezra Kirtland, Jr.,	Hepsebah Burr, Jr.,
Sarah Kirtland,	Ozias Burr,
Zebulon Kirtland,	Sarah Burr, Sen.,
Elizabeth Kirtland,	Rebecca Burr,
Widow Clayford,	Charity Burr,
Sarah Hoyt Sen.,	Mrs. Anna Chauncey,
Hannah Hoyt,	Mrs. Squire,
Jesse Brown, and his wife,	Capt. Thomas Holbertson,
Hannah Brown,	Tabatha Wakely,
Jonathan Baker, and his wife,	Sarah Fergie,
Nehemiah Allen, and wife,	Mrs. Whitier,
Hannah Allen, Sen.,	Reuben Bears, and wife,
Hannah Allen, Jr.,	Nathaniel Perry, and wife,
Hezekiah Wheeler,	Eunice,
Lucy Whelar,	John Perry,
Wilson Whelar,	Joshua Jinnings,

Hezekiah Bulkley,
 Stephen Adams,
 Lemuel Bangs, and wife,
 Widow Lacey,
 Widow Cable,
 James Knapp, and wife,
 Comfort Strong,
 Charity Cable,
 Anna Cable,
 Samuel Cable,
 David Sherwood,
 Anna Sherwood,

September 16th, 1789.

Ezra Winton,
 Hezekiah Meeker,
 Anna Meeker,
 Samuel Edwards,
 Jean Edwards,
 Naomi Grey,
 John Holbertson,
 Amos Burr,

October 15th, 1791.

Jerusha Booth,
 Joseph Booth,
 Sarah Booth,
 Ransom Clarke, his wife,
 nephew, and niece,
 Sarah Bangs,
 James Allen,
 Justus Allen,
 Adra Allen,

October 21st. 1798.

Lucy Shelton,
 Joseph P. Shelton,

Leamon Sherwood,
 Lucy Sherwood,
 Samuel Brinsmaid,
 Peninah Brinsmaid,
 Dr. William Little,
 The wife of Dr. Quinlan,
 James French, and wife,
 Ruel Grey,
 Robert Dascomb,
 Anna Nichols,
 The wife of Michael Sealy,
 John Beardsley.

Justus Burr,
 Charles Nichols,
 Daniel Burritt,
 Anna Burritt,
 Rebecca Whelar,
 Jonathan Smith,
 Sarah Smith,
 David Sherwood, Jr.

Jemimah Peet,
 Hannah Burritt,
 Comfort Burritt,
 Comfort Smith,
 Ozias Burr, Jr.,
 ——— Smith,
 ——— Grey,
 ——— Grey.

David Burr,
 George Nichols.

Elizabeth Hoyt,	Ann Baker.
Hetty L. Clark,	Ellice Lynus,
Phebe Burritt.	Mary Lynus,
Isaac Sealey, and his wife,	Lucy Beach,
Sarah,	Anna Kirtland,
Peninah Seeley,	Charity Hinman,
Polly Seeley,	Lucy Sanford,
Eliza Hull,	Sally Sylick.
Sarah Hull.	Huldah Dascomb.
Susannah Allen.	

October 18th, 1798. At Fairfield.

Isaac Marquand, and his	Lovel Bulkley, and his
wife, Mable,	brother Peter,
Seth Sturges, Jr., and his	Betsey Albert,
wife,	Polly Bulkley,
Sally Burroughs,	Sally Trubee.
Hill Meeker,	David Trubee,
Clarry Meeker,	David Jinnings.
Widow Bulkley, and her	William Pike, and his wife,
daughter,	Ephriam Robbins,
Sally Bulkley,	Aaron Beers,
Jane Bulkley,	Widow Robertson,
Rachel Bulkley,	A sister of Reuben Bears.
William Bulkley,	

May 29th, 1803. At Bridgeport.

Sally Whetmore,	Maria Peet,
Maria Shelton,	Lydia Kirtland,
Sally Burr,	Sally Kirtland,
Phebe Lewis,	Polly Roberts,
Elizabeth Smith,	Sarah Fairchild,
Catherine Peet,	Polly Burr,
Maria Burroughs,	Sally Mason.

August 5th, 1804. At Fairfield.

Josiah Bulkley,	Esther Bulkley,
Francis Bulkley,	Lucy Hinman,

Susannah Smith,
 Rebecca Sturges,
 Betsey Whitney,
 Priscilla Beers,
 Abigail Bears,
 Polly Bears,

Nabby Robertson,
 Eunice Robertson,
 Abby Hall,
 Ruth Bulkley,
 Eunice Sturges,
 Polly Pikes.

September 29th. At Weston.

Robert Downs, and his wife, ——— Gilbert, Reading,
 Dr. ——— Beard, Reading, Anna Burr.

August 30th, 1808. Fairfield. Persons confirmed by
 Bishop Jarvis.

Samuel Sturges, and wife.	Wife of Alexander Nichols,
Sturges Nichols,	John Patchen,
The wife of Joseph Perry,	William Wheeler,
and son,	The wife of James Redfield,
Joseph and Samuel Perry,	Samuel Nichols,
Betsey and Anna Beers,	Charlotte Bulkley,
daughters of Joseph Beers,	Wife of Benjamin Darrow,
Abel and Polly Beers,	Wife of Thomas Smith,
Nathan Beers,	William and sister, Mathea
Maria Sturges,	Bulkley,
Betsey Sprague,	Widow Bangs,
Daughter of Elnathan Smith,	The wife of Joseph Perry,
Mary Sturges,	Charlotte Pike,
Walter Sherwood, and wife,	Moses Jinnings,
Joseph Banks, and wife,	John Robertson,
Reuben Sherwood Jr.,	Jeremiah Sturges,
Abby Sherwood,	Anna Redfield,
Hull Sherwood,	Mary Sturges,
Benjamin Sherwood, and wife,	Morehouse Bulkley, and wife,
and daughter Eunice,	Samuel Bears.

Bridgeport, September 18th, 1807.

Philo N. Shelton,
 Henrietta Shelton,

Ann Sherwood,
 Charles Sherwood,

Elizabeth Burr,
Vinea Wheeler.
Edmund Darrow.
Richard Hyde,
Harriot Hinman,
Amelia Dickerson,
Ann Lynus,
Nathaniel Lynus,
Harriot Kirtland,
Lucy Mallory,
Sally Hoyt,
Margaret Young,
Rachel Maltbee,

David Curtis,
Lucy Bradley,
Nehemiah Allen,
Samuel Brinsmaid Allen,
James Allen,
Ruth Parrott,
Phebe Wing.
Ann Maria Allen,
Emmy Bears.
Maria Bears.
Esther Bliss,
Wife of William Robertson.

November 17th, 1811.

Juila Wheeler, wife of
Samuel Wheeler,
Eliza and Temperance
Wheeler,
Lydia Porter,

Mrs. Mallory,
Polly Goodsel,
Henry Shelton,
Eunice Young,
Sally Parrott.

September 22nd, 1809. Weston. Confirmed this day by
the Right Rev. Bishop Jarvis, the following persons:

The wife of Gould Bradley,	Samuel Wakeman,
Joseph Winton,	Esther Wakeman,
Charles Winton,	Gould Nichols,
Sarah Winton,	Dr. Uriah Parrock,
Robert Mills,	Nathan Jackson,
Mrs. Jane Oakley,	Turney Foot,
Widow Robertson,	Ruamia Nichols.
Lyman Wakeman,	Esther Oysterbanks.

August 12th, 1817. Fairfield. Persons confirmed by the
Right Rev. Bishop Hobart:

Thankful Sturges,	Eunice Beers,
Ellen Sherwood,	Paulina Beers,
Priscilla Robbins,	Eunice Bulkley,

Elizabeth Hubble,	Julia Pike,
Stephen Osbourn, Jr.,	Sally Darrow,
Abel Ogden, and wife, Betsey,	Mehitable Beers,
Louisa Robertson,	Sturges Ogden,
Mrs. Moses Jinnings,	Parmela Robbins,
Eliza Bangs,	Albert Lockwood,
Polly Bulkley,	Charity Lockwood,
Chasideck Kinner,	Lydia Wood,
Nan. Persons,	Minerva Peet,
Morris Sturges,	Mrs. Nathaniel Jinnings,
Mrs. Sheffield,	——— Jones,
Noah Pike,	——— Lyman.

Bridgeport, November 17th, 1811.

Mary Hoyt,	Sophia Hoyt,
Priscilla Hoyt,	Sarah Nichols, wife of
George Peet,	Charles N.,
Isaac and Rebecca Burroughs,	Maria Nichols,
Polly, wife of Jonah Prindle,	Clarissa Lynus.
Harvey Page, and his wife,	

February 18th, 1816, in Bridgeport.

Jonathan Mallory,	Sally Hinman,
Caroline Burr,	Sally Burr,
Lois Burr,	Wheeler Sherman,
Philo Burr,	Maria Sherman,
Jesse Scovil,	James Weeks,
Laura Sherwood,	Phebe Weeks,
William Patch,	Matilda Wheeler,
Betsey Smith,	Lieut Munson Hitchcock,
Mrs. Blake,	James Beers,
Capt. David Mynott,	William Sherwood,
James Mynott,	Henry Peet,
Isaac Hinman,	Julia Ann Wheeler,
Hannah Hinman,	Curtis Blakeman,

Lavinia Blakeman,	Mrs. Clark,
Laura Hubble,	Prudence Goodsel,
Parmela Hubble,	Hannah Allen,
Esther Woolsey,	Edria Burr,
Allen Parrott,	Mrs. Keeler.
Mary Ann Parrott,	Maria French,
Priscilla Hinman,	Catherine Middlebrook,
Charles Foot,	Sally McLane,
Philips P. Porter,	John French,
Calden Clarke,	Polly French,
Alonzo Cable,	Harriot French.
Rossel Cable,	

December 5th, 1819. Bridgeport. Confirmed by the Right Rev. Bishop Brownell.

Margaret Shelton,	Wife of Capt. L. Hitchcock,
John Burr,	Shelden Smith, and his wife,
Rebecca Burr,	George Smith, and wife
Sally Sherwood,	Betsey,
Mr. Sample,	Susannah Servil,
Mrs. Sample,	Sophia Crittenton,
Bradley Middlebrook,	Mrs. Gorum,
Mary Middlebrook,	Philip Cannon,
Maria Washbourn,	Henry Allen,
David Minott,	Minerva Booth,
David Roberts,	Mrs. Samuel Stratten,
Benjamin Brooks,	Daniel Clifford,
Harriot Brooks,	Mrs. George Cook.
Betsey Porter,	

September 28th, 1820. Fairfield Church. Persons confirmed by Bishop Brownell.

Matilda Jarvis,	Mary Osbourn,
Almira Beers,	Mary Smith,
Abigail Jane Ogden,	Catherine Bulkley,
Abigail Jane Mills,	Harriot Hubble,

Sally Ann Jennings,
 Sarah Ann Robertson,
 Hetty Jane Osborn,
 Julia Ann Meeker,
 Catherine Kennedy,
 Priscilla Bulkley,

Mrs. Cloey Bulkley,
 Mrs. Sally Beers,
 Samuel Hubble,
 George Augustus Shelton,
 Charles Downs,
 Alanson Osborn.

June 29th, 1823.

Azor Osbourn,
 Joel Burr Bulkley,
 Oren Nichols,
 Morris Sturges,
 Samuel Sturges, Jr.,
 Benjamin Sherwood, Jr.,
 Judson Nichols,

Frederick Burr,
 Susan Nichols,
 Elizabeth Bulkley,
 Eliza Osbourn,
 Ellen Williams,
 Julian Meeker,
 Sally Bears.

July 7th, 1824.

Stephen Beers, and his wife,
 Capt. David Sturges, and
 his daughter,

Mrs. Francis Bulkley,
 Mary Perry Beers.

May 21st, 1821. Confirmed by Bishop Brownell, Bridge-
 port Church.

Ebenezer Allen,
 Elizabeth F. Seeley,
 Olive Kirtland,
 Eliza Booth,
 Ruth Peabody,

Lucy Peabody,
 Emeline Sherman,
 Matilda Hubble,
 Cornelia Clark,
 Eliza Humphrey.

April 28th, 1822.

John Chatterton,
 Bathsheb Holbertson,
 Elliot Morris.
 William B. Thomas, and his
 wife,
 William Peabody,
 William Peabody, Jr.,

Maria Peabody,
 Susan Fairweather,
 Miranda Booth,
 Taylor Nichols,
 Sarah Piersons,
 Emeline Clifford,
 Mary Burritt.

October 16th, 1785.

Ezra Kirtland Sen.,	Ann Sherwood.
Tabatha Wakely,	Samuel Brinsmaid, and wife,
Ozias and Sarah Burr,	Peninah,
Sarah Hoyt, Sen.,	William Little Dart,
Hannah Hoyt,	John Beardsley,
Nehemiah Allen, and wife,	Widow Cable,
Lucy Shelton, Sen.,	The wife of James Knapp,
Elijah Burritt,	Lucy Sherwood,
Louisa Edwards,	Wife of Captain Barlow.

1786.

Richard Nichols,	Paulina Burritt.
William Peet,	

1787.

The wife of Thomas Quinlan.

1788.

Dr. Thomas Quinlan.

October, 1789.

Charles Nichols,	Daniel Burritt,
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November.

Amos Burr,	Justus Burr.
Abby Burr,	

February, 1790.

Comfort Strong,	Jemimah Peet.
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April 4th.

Philemon Sherwood,	Hepsabeth Burr, widow.
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1792.

Hepsabeth Sherwood,	Jane Edwards.
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1794.

Lucy Smith,	Edra Allen,
Robert Dascomb and wife,	Sarah Whetmore,
Charity Hinman,	George Nichols.

1800.

Lucy Shelton.

1806.

Joseph T. Shelton,

Maria Shelton.

1807.

Hannah Allen,
 Amy Beers,
 Betsey Kirtland,
 Ruth Parrott,
 Hannah Cannon,
 Sally Burr,
 Betsey Burr,
 Ozias Burr, Jr.,

Isaac Hinman,
 Lucy Hinman, now Hyde,
 Eunice Young,
 Margaret Young,
 Catherine Nichols,
 Comfort Burritt,
 Sarah Burritt,
 Abby Burr.

In Fairfield.

Stephen Adams,
 Sarah Forgue,
 Jonathan Bulkley, dead,
 Mrs. Whitier,
 Widow Redfield,
 Mrs. Bears,
 Daniel Meeker, and wife,
 Peter Bulkley, and wife,
 Joshua Jinnings, and wife,
 Widow Wheeler,
 Mrs. Squire,
 Mrs. Chancy,
 Mrs. Bulkley, widow,

Andrew Bulkley's wife,
 Hezekiah Bulkley,
 Ruben Bears,
 Eunice Perry,
 Abigail Sturges, now Nichols,
 Nathaniel Perry's wife, dead,
 Widow Barlow,
 The wife of Ezra Whelar,
 Mrs. Spaldwin,
 Hezekiah Bulkley, Jr.,
 Wife of David Oysterbanks,
 Ruel Thorp, and wife.

July 18th, 1879.

Daniel Whelar,

Robert Scudder.

September 5th.

The wife of Robert Scudder.

September 26th.

Abigail Spaldwin, dead.

October 29th, 1790.

Peter Whitney, and wife, Widow Bulkley, at Mill River.

November, 1791.

John Perry, and his wife, Lois, moved away.

March 4th, 1792.

The wife of Elnathan Smith.

September, 1793.

The wife of Daniel Whelar,	Eliphalet Hill,
Platt Bennett, and his wife,	Thomas Tredwell,
moved away,	Ebenezer Nichols.

1795.

The wife of Nathaniel	Nathaniel Perry,
Penfield, moved.	Aaron Bears,
Bethiah Marquand, left the	The wife of Jesup Perry,
Church,	Mrs. Pike.
Elnathan Smith,	

October, 1785. North Fairfield Communicants.

Jonathan Coley, and wife,	Arden Jackson, and wife,
Widow Downs,	The wife of John Jackson,
The wife of Jonathan Bradley,	Ephriam Fairchild,
Mrs. Platt, (Jarvis Platt),	William Prince, and wife,
Seth Gilbert and wife,	Daniel Morehouse, and wife,
Mrs. Foot,	Mrs. Morehouse dead.
Mrs. Mills,	The wife of Joseph Morehouse,
Mrs. Burr,	Joseph Gilbert, and wife,
Calvin Whelar, and wife,	Jack, servant to Esq. Andrew.

June, 1786.

Samuel Lord, and his w	The wife of Stephen Gilbert.
Samuel Lord dead,	The wife of Hezekiah Thorp.
Thaddeus Bennett, and his wife,	

May 1787.

Moses Burr,	Ebenezer Lyon, and wife.
——— Lyon,	

1793.

John Fanten,	Thomas Tredwell,
Thaddeus Gilbert, and wife,	Ezra Wenton,
Platt Bennett, and wife,	Isaac Lyon.
Sarah Bennett,	

1794.

Hannah Bulkley, dead,	Mrs. Cole,
John Cadwell,	Mrs. Keener,
Calvin Whelar Jr., and wife,	Gould Nichols, and wife,
Augustus Lyon, and wife,	Dr. Parock,
Methodist,	Joseph Winton, and wife,
Isaac Lyon's wife,	Mrs. Ezra Winton,
Wife of Daniel Lyon,	The wife of Clark Gregory,
Hezekiah Osbourn, and wife,	Ebenezer Sherman,
The wife of Robert Mills,	Timothy Hubble, and wife,
Eunice Gilbert,	Zachariah Hubble.
Robert Downs, and wife,	

1811.

Mrs. Nichols, wife of Stiles	Mrs. Sherwood, wife of S.
Nichols,	Sherwood,
Anna French, wife of J.	Mrs. Mallory, wife of Jonathan
French,	Mallory,
Mrs. Allen, wife of Eben Allen,	Mrs. Hubble, wife of Thadeus
Lucy Barlow,	Hubble,
Mrs. Tisdale,	Lucretia Hoyt.

1812.

Lucy Mallory, now Warden,	Lucy Porter, widow,
Mrs. King, now Brooks,	Henrietta Shelton.
Fanny Brooks,	

1813.

Wheeler Sherman.	Mrs. Prindle,
Sally Mason,	Mrs. Choat,
Mrs. Botsford,	Fanny Lord, now Lewis.

1815.

Harvey Page and wife,	Mrs. Humphrey,
Maria Roberts,	Mrs. Foot,
Julia Wheeler, wife of Samuel	Anna Sherman, wife of
Wheeler,	William Sherman,
William Patch,	Merey Fairweather,
Arnold Hurd,	Phebe, wife of T. Hawley,
February, 1816.	
Comfort, wife of J. Strong,	Mrs. Betsey Smith, wife of
Esq.,	S. Smith,
David Mynott, and wife, Sarah,	Prudence, wife of William
Hannah, wife of Isaac Hinman,	Goodsel,
Polly Burr,	Phebe, wife of James Weeks,
Maria Peet,	suspended,
Mrs. Blake,	Sarah, wife of Charles Nichols.
Mrs. Clark, wife of J. Clark,	

June 2nd.

Stebens Smith,	Sarah Burritt,
Caroline Burr,	Lydia Patch,
Samuel Wheeler,	Matildah Wheeler.
Jonathan Mallory,	

Communicants belonging to Fairfield Church.

Mrs. Hannah Bulkley,	Priscilla Bears, now Osbourn,
Abby Bulkley,	Abigal Bears, now Perry,
Abigail Whitier,	Compt. Samuel Bears, and
Mrs. Andrew Bulkley,	his wife Sarah,
Mary Perry,	Samual Bears, Jr., and his wife,
Abigail Nichols,	Walter Sherwood, and his wife,
Polly Perry, wife of D. Perry,	Ruben Sherwood, and his wife,
Abel Ogden,	Sally Banks,
Betsey Ogden,	Josiah Bulkley,
Nathaniel Perry,	Wife of Capt. James Beaty,
Eunice Perry,	Joshua Jennings, and his wife,
Mrs. Bears, wife of Nathan	David Jennings,
Bears,	Abraham Bulkley, and his wife,

Mrs. Robertson,	Alexander S. Nichols, and his
Mrs. William Robertson,	wife,
Maria Sturges,	Nathaniel Perry Bears, and
Mrs. Eunice Pike,	his wife,
Daniel Meeker, and his wife,	Aaron Bears,
Hezekiah Bradley, and his wife,	E. Robbin's wife,
Capt. Goodsel,	Abel Bears, and wife,
Widow Bulkley, the 2nd,	The wife of Joel Squire.

June 6th, 1813.

Jonathan Bears,	Hull Sherwood.
Jesse Banks,	

July 1813.

Hannah Lewis,	Mrs. Seth Sturges,
Mrs. Samuel Sturges,	Aaron Jinnings,
Mrs. Ward Bulkley,	Rebecca Osbourn.

1816.

Sarah Dimon, widow.	Mrs. Darrow,
Abby Dimon,	Mrs. Bangs, widow, now Mrs.
Abby Sherwood,	Perry,
Mrs. Darrow, Mill River,	Joseph Bulkley, and wife Cloe.

Sept. 22nd.

Charlotte Bulkley,	Maria Beers.
James Beers,	

August 12th, 1817. Confirmed by Bishop Hobart, in Fairfield.

Thankful Sturges,	Elizabeth Hubble,
Ellen Sherwood,	Stephen Osbourn, Jr.,
Priscilla Robbins,	Abel Ogden,
Parmela Robbins,	Betsey Ogden,
Eunice Beers,	Sturges Ogden,
Paulina Beers,	Louisa Robertson,
Eunice Bulkley,	Mrs. Moses Jinnings,
Paulina Beers,	Eliza Bangs,

Polly Bulkley,
 Chasideck Kenner,
 Nathaniel Persons,
 Mrs. Sheffield,
 Noah Pike,
 Julia Pike,
 Sally Darrow,
 Mahitable Beers,
 Albert Lockwood,

Charity Lockwood,
 Lydia Wood,
 Minerva Peet,
 Mrs. Nathaniel Jennings,
 ——— Jones,
 Morris Sturges,
 Henrietta Bulkley,
 Mrs. Sheffield.

May 1818.

Mrs. Moses Jennings.

July 26th.

The wife of Joseph Bulkley,	Mary Bradley,
Joseph Perry,	Julia Pike.
Griswold Bradley,	

1821.

Ansel Trubee, dead,	Maria Bears.
Mrs. Griswold Burr,	Mrs. Levi Perry,
Benjamin Sturges,	Mrs. Samuel Sturges, dead,
Thankful Sturges,	Mrs. Darrow, Mill River,
Caroline Sherwood,	Mrs. Nathaniel Jinnings,
Abby Dimon,	Mrs. James Bulkley,
Miranda Dimon,	Mrs. Aaron Hubble,
Widow Sarah Dimon,	Mrs. William Bulkley,
Eunice Darrow,	Stephen Osbourn,
Sarah Perry,	Charlotte Bulkley,
Priscilla Robbins,	Elnathan Smith, and his wife,
The wife of Ward Bulkley,	Mrs. Thorp,
Abby Sherwood,	Abel Bears,
Hannah Lewis,	Betsey Bears,
Rebecca Osbourn,	Jesse Banks,
James Bears,	Abigail Hollins.

July, 1823.

David Perry.

- Nov. 2nd,
Benjamin Sherwood, and wife, Azor Osbourn, and wife, Sarah.
Sarah Ann,
December 3rd.
Mary Smith, daughter to E. Smith.
- March.
Mrs. Walter Bulkley.
- April, 1824.
Stephen Beers, and wife, Mrs. Eunice Sherwood.
- July 11th.
Ellen Sherwood.
- August 1st.
Capt. Walter Bulkley.
- July 12th, 1818.
Ebenezer Allen, Edri Burr, wife of Nichols
Samuel Allen, dead, Burr.
- April 11th, 1819.
Capt. Curtis Blackman, and The wife of Lieut Hitchcock.
his wife, Lavina B.,
- October 3rd.
Thomas Holbertson.
- January 8th, 1820.
Eunice Pendleton, Comfort, wife of Eben Booth.
- June.
Eunice Holbertson, Jesse Scovil, and wife,
- April 20th, 1821.
Sophia Crittenton, Mrs. Green, dead,
Sally Parrott, Miss Mary Green,
Nancy Humphrey, William Shelton.
Thomas Green,
- June 17th.
Olive Kirtland, Minerva Humphrey,
Mrs. Ruth Peabody, Eliza Humphrey.
Lucy Peabody,

September.

Elizabeth Seeley, wife of Eben Seeley.

December 2nd.

Charles Foote,	Mary Peabody,
Charlotte Minott,	Taylor Nichols,
Betsey Smith, wife of George	William B. Thomas, and his
Smith,	wife,
William Peabody,	Ira Curtis, and wife.

January 6th, 1822.

Martha Green,	Joseph Ward.
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February 10th.

John Chatterton.

April 7th.

Mary Middlebrooks,	Maria Sherman.
Mrs. Persons,	

May 26th.

Samuel B. Ferguson,	Samuel Stratton, and wife,
James Clifford,	Eliza Turney.
Naoma Hubble,	

July 21st.

Harriot Kirtland.	Sarah Burr, wife of J. Burr.
Samuel Kirtland.	

July 21st, 1822.

George A. Shelton,	Ann Foote.
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March, 1823.

Harriot Allen, wife of J. Allen, John Nash.

November.

Catherine Middlebrook.

January, 1824.

Joseph Brooks,	Margaret Shelton.
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APPENDIX J.

OBITUARY NOTICES OF THE REV. PHILO SHELTON, AND MRS.
LUCY SHELTON, HIS WIFE, BY THE REV. DR. JARVIS,
1825 A. D.

Died at his residence, on Sunday, February 27th, 1825. Rev. Philo Shelton, aged 70. A numerous acquaintance justly lament his departure. It is seldom that any community is called upon to mourn the loss of a more truly pious and good man. The history of such a person is diversified by few incidents calculated to interest the general reader. He who ministers in holy things, is not called upon by a bustling world, to mingle in its contests, and contend for its honors. It is in the stillness of peaceful retirement, amidst the poor and afflicted, and in the solemn assemblies of the Church, that his life is principally spent. The incidents which mark the course of such a life, are of necessity few, that can excite attention, except in the minute observance of the progress of that religion, which, like the still small voice, finds its way silently to the hearts of men. Still, however, the practically religious and amiable character of this good man, ought not pass unnoticed nor be forgotten.

He was born at Huntington, May 5th, 1754. From his youth, he was deeply impressed with the importance of embracing the Christian religion; viewing this life as the probationary period of man's existence, and the only time allotted to him, in which he may prepare for enjoying an eternity of happiness, the proper improvement of the present, to ensure

the future welfare of the soul, became to him the subject of the deepest interest. Under these impressions he embraced Christianity in early life, and came to the Holy Communion as an instituted means of grace. Finding by sweet experience, that the path of virtue and religion, was the path of peace, he became anxious that others should participate with him in the cheering prospects of a glorious immortality. This excited his desire to become a dispenser of those Doctrines and Sacraments, which were the source of his own consolations and hope.

After having finished the requisite studies, he entered Yale College in 1771, preparative to receiving Holy Orders, and becoming a minister of the Gospel of Peace. During his residence at College, he sustained a fair character and respectable standing, and graduated in 1775. As the arduous struggle between the then Colonies and Great Britain, prevented him from receiving ordination, he became lay reader in the parishes of Stratfield, (now Bridgeport), Fairfield and Weston. In 1785, upon the return of Bishop Seabury from Europe, clothed with Episcopal authority, he entered the the ministry, and was the first person Episcopally ordained in the United States. The vestries of the above named parishes unanimously elected him their Rector. This appointment he accepted, and notwithstanding repeated invitations to other parishes, much more eligible, and in a pecuniary point of view, far more promising, he chose to remain with his beloved people, and although with a small salary, he persevered in the faithful discharge of his duties, gratified by daily observing that his labors were not in vain in the Lord.

Thus cemented in mutual affection, did this worthy pastor and his people pass more than thirty years. But the Parish of Fairfield having received considerable accessions, and that of Bridgeport having greatly increased in numbers, he was compelled, although reluctantly, to discontinue his services in Weston, to enable him to supply the spiritual wants of the

rapidly increasing Parish of Bridgeport. This parish, at the commencement of Mr. Shelton's ministry, was small, but continued gradually to increase for several years.

But, as the Borough of Bridgeport increased in population, and with it, that part of the congregation, the location of the old Church was found to be quite inconvenient, and it was deemed expedient to erect a new one in the more dense part of the population. In this work, which commenced in 1801, Mr. Shelton assisted the people, not only by his counsel, but by liberal contributions. After the removal of the Church, large accessions were made to the number of his hearers. For more than twenty years, he had the satisfaction of seeing his labors blessed by the Great Head of the Church, and being beloved by his children in the Gospel. Indeed, few clergymen have enjoyed the happiness of being more universally esteemed by their acquaintances, or more generally beloved by their people.

Although the excellencies of this good man are a theme upon which I might long dwell with delight, my limits will permit me to go no further. Having fought the good fight and kept the faith, there is a crown of glory laid up for him, which God, the Righteous Judge, will give him at the last day.

OBITUARY OF LUCY SHELTON, WIFE OF PHILO SHELTON.

Died at her residence, near Bridgeport, Connecticut, on Friday, October 19th, 1838, in the 78th year of her age, Lucy, widow of the late Rev. Philo Shelton, for 40 years Rector of St. John's Church, in that borough. Her remains were interred on Sunday, the 21st of October, after divine service and a sermon from Psalm 39, 9th verse, suitable to the solemn occasion, by the Rev. Gordon I. Coit, the present Rector. Mr. Shelton may justly be called the first fruits of the American Episcopate, for he was the first clergyman ordained by the first American Bishop. Hands were laid upon him by Bishop Seabury, on August 3rd, 1785, and from that time he

continued, until his death, to exercise his holy functions in one parish.

On April 20th, 1781, he was united to her, who is the subject of the present notice, and by whom he had a numerous family. Most of her children are now living, and among them two most respectable and useful clergymen of our Church. The present writer, though unconnected by other than Christian ties, was from a child, intimate in the family, and has never witnessed, in the midst of peculiar trials and difficulties, a more lovely example of Christian meekness and charity. It is unnecessary to dwell upon a fact universally known, that during the period of Mr. Shelton's ministry, the members of our communion were a feeble, and in Connecticut, a despised and persecuted flock. Yet he and his wife, like Zechariah and Elizabeth, "walked in all the Commandments and Ordinances of the Lord, blameless," and so lived down all opposition as to command the respect and love, even of those who were most hostile to their principles. They blended firmness of purpose and moral courage, with the most dove-like simplicity and gentleness.

Mrs. Shelton took a lively interest in all her husband's concerns. She looked well to the ways of her household, and by the strict performance of a woman's duties, lightened his cares and promoted his influence. Husband and wife were so blended together, that they seemed to have but one will and one heart. His God was her God; his Redeemer was her Redeemer; his Church was her Church; his people were her people. She never stepped beyond the retiring modesty of her sex, but the present writer has often listened to her conversation on Christian doctrines and duties, uttered with that sort of animation which showed that her whole heart was in the matter. Bright patterns of Christian virtue! With what tender affection does memory look back to past enjoyments in your peaceful abode, and with what ardor do faith and hope look forward, to the reunion of immortality!

APPENDIX K.

THE BIBLE AND COMMON PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY OF TRINITY
CHURCH, SOUTHPORT, CONNECTICUT.

CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP.

At a meeting of a number of gentlemen, members of Trinity Episcopal Church in Fairfield, on the first day of January 1818, for the purpose of forming a Bible and Common Prayer Book Society, the following was unanimously adopted as their Constitution:

ARTICLE 1ST.—This organization shall be known and distinguished by the name of the Bible and Common Prayer Book Society of the Town of Fairfield.

ARTICLE 2ND.—Every person who shall annually pay into the treasury one dollar shall be a member of said Society. And whosoever shall pay at one time the sum of seven dollars shall be a member for life.

ARTICLE 3RD.—The officers of the Society shall be chosen annually and shall consist of one president, one vice-president, a treasurer, a secretary, and three directors, a majority of whom shall constitute a board to transact business. The clergyman in charge of Trinity Church, in the Town of Fairfield, shall be the president ex-officio, and the treasurer shall give bonds for the faithful discharge of his trust, to the satisfaction of the board, and also make an annual report to the board of the state of the funds.

ARTICLE 4TH.—It shall be the duty of all the members of the board to exert themselves to obtain subscriptions and donations, and pay the same into the treasury, and all such subscriptions and donations shall be considered a permanent fund and be put to interest, and no more than the interest thereof shall be used for the purposes of the Society until the funds amount to one hundred dollars.

ARTICLE 5TH.—With the interest of the funds the directors shall purchase Bibles without note or comment, and Common Prayer Books, and distribute them to the needy under the direction of the board and the latter shall make report of their doings, the state of the funds, etc., to the annual meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE 6TH.—There shall be an annual meeting of the Society sometime in the month of January at such time and place as the president, or in his absence, the secretary shall direct.

ARTICLE 7TH.—There shall be a book provided by the secretary in which he shall record the names of the members, and the several sums given by them, also the proceedings of the meetings and such other matters as shall be directed by the board.

ARTICLE 8TH.—No person shall receive any pecuniary reward for his services as an officer or agent of this Society.

ARTICLE 9TH.—The foregoing shall be the Constitution of the Bible and Common Prayer Book Society of Trinity Church in the Town of Fairfield, and said Constitution shall not be altered except at an annual meeting, and by the votes of two-thirds of the members present.

After the foregoing Constitution was read and adopted the meeting proceeded to the election of officers for the year ensuing, and the following gentlemen were appointed by a unanimous vote, viz.:

Rev. Philo Shelton, President.
Mr. William Robinson, Vice-President.
Mr. Jesse Banks, Secretary.
Mr. Jeremiah Sturges, Treasurer.
Mr. Walter Sherwood, Mr. Joseph W. Davis, Mr. Abel Beers, directors.

LIST OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

PRESIDENTS.

Rev. Philo Shelton, 1818-25.
Rev. William Shelton, D. D., 1825-29.
Rev. Charles Smith, 1829-34.
Rev. Nathaniel E. Cornwall, 1834-53.
Rev. James E. Purdy, 1853-58.
Rev. Rufus Emery, 1858-70.
Rev. Edward L. Wells, 1870-77.
Rev. Taliaferro P. Caskey, 1877-79.
Rev. Charles G. Adams, 1879-90.
Rev. Edmund Guilbert, 1891—

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Mr. William Robinson, 1818-26.
Mr. Walter Sherwood, 1826-36.
Mr. James Bulkley, 1836-45.
Mr. Abel Beers, 1845-58.
Mr. William Bulkley, 1858-59.
Mr. Abel Beers, 1859-63.
Mr. William Bulkley, 1863-68.
Mr. Abel Beers, 1868-75.
Mr. Jonathan Godfrey, Jr., 1875-83.
Mr. Augustus Jennings, 1883-86.
Mr. Franklin Bulkley, 1886—

LIFE MEMBERS.

1818.	1854.
Rev. Philo Shelton,	Rev. James S. Purdy.
Jesse Banks,	Charles Bulkley,
Abel Beers,	William Bulkley,
Grisella and Mary Bradley,	Isaac Milbank.
Stephen Osborn,	1862.
William Robinson,	Oliver Bulkley,
Walter Sherwood,	Jeremiah Sturges.
Benjamin Sturges,	1865.
Gersham Sturges,	John H. Sherwood.
Jeremiah Sturges.	1866.
1827.	Andrew Bulkley.
Joseph Bulkley.	1867.
1829.	Franklin Bulkley.
James Bulkley.	Francis Jelliff.
1831.	1868.
Rev. Charles Smith.	(Semi-Centennial Year.)
1839.	Rt. Rev. John Williams, D.D.
Edward Carew,	Rev. Rufus Emery,
Jonathan Godfrey,	Mrs. William Bulkley,
George Robinson,	Mrs. Andrew Bulkley,
Henry Sturges.	Mrs. Mary J. Gallagher.
1840.	Mrs. Augustus Jennings,
Rev. Nathaniel E. Cornwall.	Mrs. Nehemiah Perry,
1846.	Mrs. Benjamin Pomeroy,
David Banks,	Miss Josephine B. Pomeroy.
George Ogden,	Mrs. Brooks Hughes Wells.
Henry Perry.	Mrs. Edward H. Winslow,
1852.	Patrick Griffin,
Augustus Jennings.	Henry Davis,
1853.	Arthur O. Jennings,
George M. Hawkins.	James D. Jennings,

Benjamin Pomeroy,	Moses Bulkley.
Justus Sherwood, M. D.	1886.
Jesup B. Wakeman.	Edward M. Bulkley,
1869.	Abraham B. Sturges, M. D.
Mrs. Sarah J. Morehouse,	1889.
Frederick Bulkley,	E. Livingston Wells.
William C. Bulkley,	1890.
William D. Gallagher,	Joseph Bradley.
John Hawkins,	1891.
Howard N. Wakeman.	Roderick P. Curtis.
1870.	1892.
Miss Elizabeth D. Banks.	Rev. Edmund Guilbert, D. D.
1871.	E. Cornelius Sherwood.
Rev. Edward L. Wells.	1893.
1878.	Lewis A. Curtis,
Rev. Taliaferro P. Caskey,	Lewis B. Curtis.
Sidney Hawkins,	1894.
Charles Rockwell.	Oliver T. Sherwood.
1879.	1895.
Charles F. Bulkley.	John A. Gorham.
1881.	1898.
Rev. Charles G. Adams,	Azor O. Hawkins.

At the Semi-Centennial meeting of the Bible and Common Prayer Book Society, held in Trinity Church, February 7th, 1868, the following report was made: "The Society has now been in existence fifty years, and has distributed Bibles and Prayer Books, whenever asked for, to the needy of this parish; also to the Sunday school; also to St. Paul's of Fairfield, to Weston, to Easton, to Kansas, to Michigan, to vessels of this port, to war vessels of the United States Government, in all, fourteen hundred and forty-one books of Common Prayer, eighty-eight New Testaments, and fifty-one Bibles, besides in 1835, purchasing one large Prayer Book for use of Trinity Church, and again in 1856, one large Bible, and three large Prayer Books for the same purpose."

It is estimated that the Society up to the present time, 1898, has distributed, in the aggregate, nearly six thousand copies of the Bible, the New Testament, and the Book of Common Prayer. The total amount of invested funds is \$561.12, and the present officers as elected January, 1898, are:

Rev. Dr. Edmund Guilbert, President, Ex-officio.

Franklin Bulkley, Vice President.

John H. Sherwood, John Hawkins, Charles F. Bulkley, E. L. Wells, Oliver Bulkley, E. C. Sherwood, A. O. Jennings, R. P. Curtis, H. N. Wakeman, Directors.

A. B. Sturges, Oliver Bulkley, Franklin Bulkley, Finance Committee.

H. N. Wakeman, Secretary and Treasurer.

John Hawkins, John H. Sherwood, A. O. Jennings, Standing Committee.

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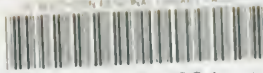
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